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yearbook of american and canadian churches 1984

edited by
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III
STATISTICAL AND HISTORICAL SECTION

This section of the **Yearbook** provides various types of statistical data and information on depositories of church history material for the U.S. and Canada. It is hoped that these materials will be useful in describing some major dimensions of religious life.

Much of the data presented here are unique, at least in form of presentation, and can be used judiciously to interpret developments in the religious life of the U.S. and Canada. Whenever necessary, qualifying statements have been made to warn the user of some of the pitfalls in the data.

Information in this section of the **Yearbook,** when compared with that of previous editions, suggests a number of interesting subjects for students, journalists, and church researchers to analyze and interpret. For the most part, generalizations on trends reflected in the data are left up to the reader.

The following information is contained in this Statistical and Historical Section.

1. **Current and Non-Current Statistical Data.** This section contains nine tables, numbered 1A-J, as follows: 1-A United States Current and Non-Current Statistics, arranged alphabetically for 219 United States religious bodies. Included is information on Number of Churches, Inclusive Membership, Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members (current data only), Number of Pastors Serving Parishes, Total Number of Clergy, Number of Sunday or Sabbath Schools (current data only), and Total enrollment (current data only). Table 1-B, Summary of United States Current and Non-Current Statistics, provides totals for 219 bodies in the above categories and compares these totals with those in the previous **Yearbook** for 1983. Table 1-C, Some Comparative United States Church Statistics, compares data mainly for 1983 with those mainly for 1982 with regard to Church Membership as a Percent of U.S. Population, Membership Gain and Percentage of Gain over Previous Year. Table 1-D, Current and Non-Current Canadian Statistics provides the same data for Canadian bodies as those described above for Table 1-A. Table 1-E provides a Summary of Canadian Current and Non-Current Statistics. Table 1-F, Number of United States Churches and of Members, by Religious Groups, is continued from the previous year with all the necessary qualifications, Table 1-G. Constituency of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., is followed by Table 1-H, Church Membership Statistics, 1940-1982, for Selected U.S. Denominations. Table 1-J, Inclusive Membership, 54 Compilations, concludes this section.

2. **Church Financial Statistics and Related Data.** Complete data on contributions of members of 70 United States and Canadian religious bodies are supplied in the following categories: Total Contributions, Total Congregational Finances, and Benevolences. Per capita contributions based on both Inclusive and Full or Confirmed Membership are supplemented by Related Data consisting of several charts and tables reflecting relevant background trends relating to income and expenditures in the U.S. and Canada.

3. **Some Trends and Developments.** This section of the **Yearbook** begins with "Religion in Canada: Findings from the 1981 Census," by David R. Stone, Research Officer, The United Church of Canada. This is followed by "Clergy Salaries and Income in 1982 in Eleven U. S. Denominations" written by the Editor of the **Yearbook.** "Trends in Seminary Enrollment: 1977-1983," by Dr. Marvin A. Taylor, Associate Director of The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, concludes the section.

4. **Surveys of Religion in American Life.** Three survey articles comprise this section. The first, "What Hath the 1970s Wrought?: Religion in America," is by Dr. David A. Roozen, Associate Director, Center for Social and Religious Research, Hartford Seminary, Hartford, Conn., and analyzes trends in national opinion polls during the decade of the 1970s. This is followed by a roundup of selected Church Attendance and Other Polls. "Value of New Construction of Religious Buildings" concludes this section.

5. **Main Depositories of Church History Material and Sources.** This is a listing, by denomination, of various major depositories of historical and archival materials in the United States and Canada, including a bibliographical guide to information on church archives.

1. CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT STATISTICAL DATA

Tables 1 A-J in this section, containing current and non-current data, have been compiled from questionnaires returned to the **Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches** by statisticians and other officials of religious bodies. These statistics have been checked carefully, but in no case have they been "adjusted" by the editor in any way for any purpose. What is reported here are official reports.

In keeping with the bi-national organization of the **Yearbook**, statistical totals are given in separate tables for the United States and Canada for the 302 denominations, or parts or denominations, reporting. In some cases, therefore, statistical tables for a denomination that has headquarters in the U.S., and has a Canadian section, will vary slightly from officially reported statistics of that denomination and it will be necessary to add the two parts together. For example, the Lutheran Church in America had an official membership in 1982 of 3,048,495; 2,925,655 of which was in the United States and 122,840 in Lutheran Church in America—Canada Section.

In Table 1-A, the religious bodies in the U.S. are listed alphabetically and current data appear in **bold face** type. Non-current data appear in the light face type. Current data are those compiled and reported in 1983 or 1982. Non-current data are those for 1981 or earlier. Table 1-A contains 113 current reports and 106 noncurrent, making a total of 219. Current reports, comprising 51.6 percent of all reports, account for 78.2 percent of reported membership.

Statistics appearing in Table 1-G, Constituency of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., do not show the distinction between current and non-current data, although the date of the last statistical report received is noted for each religious body. This year Table 1-D, Canadian Current and Non-Current Statistics, contains statistical reports from 83 Canadian bodies, one more than what was in the previous edition of the **Yearbook**.

Caution should be exercised in interpreting Table 1-B, Summary of United States Current and Non-Current Statistics, which indicates the general trends that are shown by the data in the 1984 and 1983 **Yearbooks.** Since current and non-current statistics are combined for this comparison, the dangers of elaborate generalizations are obvious. The same is true for Table 1-C. Some Comparative United States Church Statistics.

Users of church statistics are referred to "A Guide for the User of Church Statistics," found at the front of this **Yearbook**. It is essential reading for all who intend to work with, and interpret, statistics contained in this volume. The Guide is placed in this prominent position to highlight its importance, and its chief function is to state candidly the many qualifications which must be taken into account when using church statistics.

TABLE 1-A: UNITED STATES CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT STATISTICS

The following table provides current and non-current statistics for United States religious bodies listed alphabetically. Current statistics are defined as those gathered and reported for 1983 and 1982. Those bodies having current statistics and the statistics themselves, are shown in **bold face** type. Non-current statistics are those for 1981 or earlier. They appear in light face type. No statistics for "Full, Communicant, or Confirmed members," "Number of Sunday or Sabbath Schools," and "Total Enrollment" are reported for bodies having non-current statistics.

Religious Body	Year Reported	No. of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members	No. of Pastors Serving Parishes	Total No. of Clergy	No. of Sunday or Sabbath Schools	Total Enrollment
Advent Christian Church	1980	364	29,838		255	532		
African Methodist Episcopal Church	1981	6,200	2,210,000		6,050	6,550		
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church	**1982**	**6,023**	**1,134,179**	**1,050,669**	**6,000**	**6,269**	**6,023**	**193,181**
Albanian Orthodox Archdiocese in America	1978	16	40,000		18	25		
Albanian Orthodox Diocese of America	**1982**	**10**	**5,250**	**500**	**2**	**3**	**2**	**117**
Amana Church Society	1970	7	735		None	None		
American Baptist Association	**1982**	**1,641**	**225,000**	**225,000**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.	1981	5,939	1,621,795		4,034	6,951		
American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church	1976	70	100,000		61	68		
The American Lutheran Church	**1982**	**4,897**	**2,346,710**	**1,758,239**	**4,537**	**7,246**	**4,501**	**587,164**
American Rescue Workers	1978	15	2,140		32	43		
The Anglican Orthodox Church	1972	37	2,630		12	14		
The Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America	1977	110	152,000		120	132		
Apostolic Christian Church (Nazarean)	1981	46	2,684		153	153		
Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East, North American Diocese	**1983**	**13**	**35,000**	**35,000**	**56**	**65**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Apostolic Christian Churches of America	**1983**	**82**	**21,173**	**11,173**	**211**	**290**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
The Apostolic Faith	**1982**	**45**	**4,100**	**4,100**	**75**	**75**	**45**	**6,800**
Apostolic Faith Mission Church of God	**1982**	**17**	**2,600**	**1,700**	**25**	**36**	**17**	**950**
Apostolic Lutheran Church of America	**1982**	**52**	**6,500**	**3,500**	**33**	**38**	**46**	**2,494**
Apostolic Overcoming Holy Church of God	1956	300	75,000		300	350		
Armenian Apostolic Church of America	1972	29	125,000		23	34		
Armenian Church of America, Diocese of the (Including Diocese of California)	1979	66	450,000		45	61		
Assemblies of God	**1982**	**10,173**	**1,879,182**	**1,119,686**	**14,346**	**24,498**	**9,913**	**1,421,924**
Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, General Synod	1980	156	31,518		112	171		
Baptist General Conference	**1982**	**721**	**129,928**	**129,928**	**964**	**1,146**	**721**	**96,543**
Baptist Missionary Association of America	**1982**	**1,386**	**226,953**	**226,953**	**3,500**	**3,500**	**1,386**	**101,613**

TABLE 1-A: UNITED STATES CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT STATISTICS—Continued

Religious Body	Year Reported	No. of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members	No. of Pastors Serving Parishes	Total No. of Clergy	No. of Sunday or Sabbath Schools	Total Enrollment
Beachy Amish Mennonite Church	1981	79	5,460		228	241		
Berean Fundamental Church	1981	49	3,350		51	53		
Bethel Ministerial Association	**1982**	**15**	**1,500**	**900**	**40**	**81**	**15**	**1,200**
The Bible Church of Christ, Inc	**1983**	**6**	**4,350**	**4,350**	**6**	**27**	**6**	**790**
Bible Protestant Church	1978	36	2,077		38	58		
Bible Way Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, World Wide, Inc	1970	350	30,000		350	350		
Brethren Church (Ashland, Ohio)	**1982**	**125**	**14,857**	**14,857**	**99**	**179**	**125**	**7,431**
Brethren in Christ Church	1981	167	16,201		98	211		
Buddhist Churches of America	**1983**	**62**	**100,000**	**21,500**	**69**	**115**	**75**	**3,500**
Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church (Diocese of N. & S. America and Australia)	1971	13	86,000		N.R.	11		
Christ Catholic Church	**1982**	**7**	**1,354**	**1,028**	**6**	**9**	**1**	**19**
Christadelphians	1964	850	15,800		None	None		
The Christian and Missionary Alliance	**1982**	**1,485**	**204,713**	**112,745**	**1,412**	**1,819**	**1,485**	**165,491**
Christian Catholic Church (Evangelical-Protestant)	**1983**	**5**	**2,500**	**2,500**	**10**	**16**	**N.R.**	**1,620**
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	**1982**	**4,291**	**1,156,458**	**770,227**	**3,983**	**6,608**	**4,291**	**349,715**
Christian Church of North America, General Council	**1982**	**101**	**12,500**	**12,500**	**101**	**156**	**101**	**10,500**
Christian Churches and Churches of Christ	1981	5,605	1,063,254		6,121	8,074		
The Christian Congregation, Inc	**1982**	**1,435**	**100,694**	**100,694**	**1,435**	**1,443**	**1,303**	**57,998**
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church	1981	2,883	786,707		2,483	2,877		
Christian Nation Church, U.S.A.	**1982**	**5**	**226**	**226**	**6**	**18**	**5**	**246**
Christian Reformed Church in North America	**1982**	**648**	**223,976**	**141,906**	**589**	**1,014**	**640**	**53,018**
Christian Union	1979	108	5,463		80	96		
Church of Christ	1972	32	2,400		169	188		
Church of Daniel's Band	1951	4	200		4	10		
The Church of God	1978	2,035	75,890		1,910	2,737		
Church of God (Anderson, Ind.)	**1982**	**2,275**	**184,685**	**184,685**	**1,888**	**3,186**	**2,253**	**222,130**
Church of God by Faith	1973	105	4,500		125	150		
Church of God (Cleveland, Tenn.)	**1982**	**5,284**	**463,992**	**463,992**	**9,973**	**10,985**	**5,329**	**508,863**
Church of God General Conference (Oregon, Ill.)	**1983**	**84**	**5,781**	**5,781**	**69**	**83**	**84**	**5,077**
The Church of God in Christ	**1982**	**9,982**	**3,709,661**	**3,709,661**	**9,204**	**10,425**	**9,950**	**2,315,299**
The Church of God in Christ, International	**1982**	**300**	**200,000**	**200,000**	**700**	**1,600**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Church of God in Christ (Mennonite)	1981	94	10,826		213	379		
The Church of God of Prophecy	**1982**	**2,026**	**74,084**	**74,084**	**N.R.**	**5,548**	**1,856**	**99,760**

TABLE 1-A: UNITED STATES CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT STATISTICS—Continued

Religious Body	Year Reported	No. of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members	No. of Pastors Serving Parishes	Total No. of Clergy	No. of Sunday or Sabbath Schools	Total Enrollment
The Church of God of the Mountain Assembly	1977	105	3,125		162	162		
Church of God (7th Day)	1960	7	2,000		7	9		
Church of God (Seventh Day) Denver, Colo	**1982**	**125**	**4,875**	**4,225**	**100**	**114**	**125**	**3,653**
Church of God (Which He Purchased With His Own Blood)	1981	7	800		10	14		
Church of Illumination	1963	4	9,000		60	60		
The Church of Jesus Christ (Bickertonites)	1981	53	2,654		243	243		
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints	**1982**	**7,839**	**3,521,000**	**2,864,000**	**23,517**	**26,686**	**7,839**	**3,298,000**
Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith	1954	155	45,000		150	165		
Church of the Brethren	**1982**	**1,063**	**168,844**	**168,844**	**N.R.**	**1,913**	**978**	**61,067**
Church of the Lutheran Brethren of America	**1982**	**106**	**10,580**	**6,598**	**89**	**136**	**101**	**9,183**
Church of the Lutheran Confession	**1982**	**67**	**8,986**	**6,545**	**53**	**74**	**57**	**1,440**
Church of the Nazarene	**1982**	**4,902**	**498,491**	**497,261**	**4,003**	**8,043**	**4,767**	**811,438**
Churches of Christ	**1982**	**12,750**	**1,605,000**	**1,240,000**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**	**11,200**	**950,000**
Churches of Christ in Christian Union	1980	251	11,943		251	482		
Churches of God, General Conference	**1982**	**345**	**34,241**	**34,241**	**298**	**428**	**344**	**30,885**
Community Churches, National Council of	1979	185	190,000		210	N.R.		
Congregational Christian Churches, National Association of	**1983**	**458**	**106,460**	**106,460**	**481**	**776**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Congregational Holiness Church	1981	174	8,347		176	488		
Conservative Baptist Association of America	**1982**	**1,140**	**225,000**	**225,000**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Conservative Congregational Christian Conference	**1982**	**140**	**26,008**	**26,008**	**233**	**354**	**137**	**11,172**
Conservative Lutheran Association/ Lutherans Alert National	**1983**	**9**	**2,332**	**1,579**	**10**	**17**	**9**	**443**
Coptic Orthodox Church	**1983**	**29**	**100,000**	**100,000**	**27**	**27**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Cumberland Presbyterian Church	**1982**	**856**	**97,813**	**91,744**	**498**	**739**	**856**	**49,424**
Duck River (and Kindred) Associations of Baptists	1975	85	8,632		148	148		
Elim Fellowship	**1983**	**36**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**	**144**	**185**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
The Episcopal Church	**1982**	**7,095**	**2,794,139**	**1,922,905**	**7,549**	**12,974**	**N.R.**	**556,372**
The Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church	**1982**	**23**	**7,995**	**7,995**	**20**	**24**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Ethical Culture Movement	**1982**	**25**	**4,000**	**4,000**	**14**	**32**	**14**	**354**
Evangelical Church of North America	1980	143	13,088		130	208		
Evangelical Congregational Church	**1983**	**163**	**39,710**	**27,203**	**127**	**207**	**160**	**21,778**
Evangelical Covenant Church of America	**1982**	**550**	**81,324**	**81,324**	**465**	**847**	**505**	**69,740**
Evangelical Free Church of America	**1983**	**853**	**110,555**	**81,451**	**1,058**	**1,180**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Evangelical Friends Alliance	**1982**	**217**	**24,095**	**18,069**	**192**	**483**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (Eielsen Synod)	**1982**	**2**	**50**	**50**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

TABLE 1-A: UNITED STATES CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT STATISTICS—Continued

Religious Body	Year Reported	No. of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members	No. of Pastors Serving Parishes	Total No. of Clergy	No. of Sunday or Sabbath Schools	Total Enrollment
Evangelical Lutheran Churches, The Association of	**1982**	**272**	**110,934**	**85,165**	**334**	**685**	**228**	**22,936**
Evangelical Lutheran Synod	**1982**	**110**	**20,025**	**15,165**	**75**	**101**	**97**	**3,576**
Evangelical Mennonite Brethren Conference	**1982**	**15**	**2,047**	**2,047**	**10**	**38**	**15**	**1,310**
Evangelical Mennonite Church	**1982**	**24**	**3,832**	**3,832**	**35**	**58**	**25**	**5,108**
Evangelical Methodist Church	1974	139	10,502		145	218		
Evangelical Presbyterian Church	**1982**	**35**	**19,000**	**18,000**	**58**	**67**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
The Fire Baptized Holiness Church (Wesleyan)	1958	53	998		N.R.	N.R.		
Free Christian Zion Church of Christ	1956	742	22,260		321	340		
Free Lutheran Congregations, The Association of	**1983**	**145**	**16,759**	**12,630**	**64**	**96**	**129**	**5,555**
Free Methodist Church of North America	**1982**	**1,012**	**70,657**	**54,198**	**900**	**1,733**	**1,008**	**106,428**
Free Will Baptists	**1982**	**2,505**	**243,658**	**243,658**	**2,815**	**2,890**	**2,505**	**195,333**
Friends General Conference	1974	233	28,184		None	None		
Friends United Meeting	**1982**	**535**	**59,338**	**50,601**	**274**	**557**	**394**	**27,580**
Full Gospel Assemblies, International	**1983**	**150**	**3,800**	**3,800**	**122**	**399**	**40**	**980**
Full Gospel Fellowship of Churches and Ministers, International	**1983**	**401**	**65,000**	**65,000**	**809**	**809**	**401**	**45,000**
Fundamental Methodist Church, Inc.	1980	14	700		15	15		
General Association of Regular Baptist Churches	1981	1,571	300,839		2,000	2,045		
General Baptists (General Association of)	1981	870	75,028		N.R.	1,373		
General Church of the New Jerusalem	1971	33	2,143		17	31		
General Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches	1981	124	17,065		119	119		
General Conference of the Evangelical Baptist Church, Inc.	1952	31	2,200		22	37		
General Convention, The Swedenborgian Church	1981	39	1,820		24	53		
General Six Principle Baptists	1970	7	175		4	7		
Grace Brethren Churches, Fellowship of	1981	284	42,023		285	475		
Grace Gospel Fellowship	**1983**	**47**	**4,250**	**2,250**	**67**	**111**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America	1977	535	1,950,000		610	655		
The Holiness Church of God, Inc.	1968	28	927		25	36		
Holy Orthodox Church in America, Eastern Catholic and Apostolic	**1983**	**2**	**250**	**100**	**4**	**5**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Holy Ukrainian Autocephalic Church in Exile	1965	15	4,800		15	24		
House of God, Which is the Church of the Living God, the Pillar and Ground of the Truth, Inc.	1956	107	2,350		80	120		
Hungarian Reformed Church in America	**1982**	**31**	**11,000**	**10,500**	**27**	**43**	**25**	**583**
Hutterian Brethren	1980	35	3,684		N.R.	N.R.		
Independent Assemblies of God, International	1982	136	N.R.		136	387		

TABLE 1-A: UNITED STATES CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT STATISTICS—Continued

Religious Body	Year Reported	No. of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members	No. of Pastors Serving Parishes	Total No. of Clergy	No. of Sunday or Sabbath Schools	Total Enrollment
Independent Fundamental Churches of America	1980	1,019	120,446		782	1,366		
International Church of the Foursquare Gospel	1983	714	89,215		741	2,690		
International Pentecostal Church of Christ	**1983**	**81**	**2,685**	**2,685**	**81**	**163**	**81**	**5,095**
Jehovah's Witnesses	**1982**	**7,752**	**619,188**	**619,188**	**None**	**None**	**None**	**None**
Jews	**1982**	**3,500**	**5,725,000**	**N.R.**	**3,060**	**6,500**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Kodesh Church of Immanuel	1980	5	326		5	28		
The Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	**1982**	**60**	**13,526**	**11,810**	**39**	**52**	**21**	**882**
Liberal Catholic Church—Province of the United States of America	1973	29	2,962		61	107		
Lutheran Church in America	**1982**	**5,815**	**2,925,855**	**2,176,265**	**5,124**	**8,216**	**5,869**	**670,578**
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod	**1982**	**5,752**	**2,630,823**	**1,981,260**	**4,879**	**7,559**	**5,568**	**642,885**
Mennonite Church	**1982**	**1,179**	**101,591**	**101,501**	**1,785**	**2,400**	**984**	**115,300**
Mennonite Church, The General Conference	1981	218	36,844		350	505		
Metropolitan Church Association, Inc.	1958	15	643		13	62		
Metropolitan Community Churches, Universal Fellowship of	**1983**	**185**	**32,000**	**23,000**	**202**	**207**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
The Missionary Church	**1982**	**294**	**25,371**	**25,371**	**278**	**496**	**280**	**43,661**
Moravian Church—Northern Province	**1982**	**98**	**33,092**	**25,453**	**95**	**165**	**95**	**7,447**
Moravian Church—Southern Province	**1982**	**56**	**21,618**	**17,764**	**57**	**81**	**54**	**9,227**
National Baptist Convention of America	1956	11,398	2,668,799		7,598	28,574		
National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.	1958	26,000	5,500,000		26,000	27,500		
National Primitive Baptist Convention, Inc.	1975	606	250,000		460	636		
National Spiritualist Association of Churches	1976	164	5,168		144	N.R.		
Netherlands Reformed Congregations	**1982**	**24**	**8,760**	**4,274**	**5**	**6**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
New Apostolic Church of North America	**1982**	**411**	**29,638**	**29,638**	**602**	**673**	**411**	**10,583**
North American Baptist Conference	**1982**	**260**	**42,735**	**42,735**	**251**	**357**	**260**	**22,906**
North American Old Roman Catholic Church	**1982**	**130**	**62,383**	**53,002**	**107**	**150**	**81**	**12,460**
North American Old Roman Catholic Church (Archdiocese of New York)	1981	4	750		11	15		
Old German Baptist Brethren	**1982**	**52**	**5,254**	**5,254**	**236**	**236**	**None**	**None**
Old Order Amish Church	1981	589	82,460		N.R.	N.R.		
Old Order (Wisler) Mennonite Church	1980	38	9,731		N.R.	N.R.		
Open Bible Standard Churches, Inc.	**1983**	**277**	**46,651**	**40,003**	**507**	**878**	**265**	**24,225**
The (Original) Church of God	1971	70	20,000		50	124		
Orthodox Church in America	1978	440	1,000,000		457	531		
The Orthodox Presbyterian Church	1981	157	17,108		180	288		
Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, Inc.	1980	550	4,500		450	600		
Pentecostal Church of God, Inc.	**1982**	**1,107**	**91,008**	**41,337**	**N.R.**	**1,542**	**N.R.**	**69,800**

TABLE 1-A: UNITED STATES CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT STATISTICS—Continued

Religious Body	Year Reported	No. of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members	No. of Pastors Serving Parishes	Total No. of Clergy	No. of Sunday or Sabbath Schools	Total Enrollment
Pentecostal Fire-Baptized Holiness Church	1969	41	545		80	80		
The Pentecostal Free-Will Baptist Church, Inc	**1983**	**127**	**9,280**	**9,280**	**115**	**170**	**127**	**12,120**
Pentecostal Holiness Church	1977	2,340	86,103		1,329	2,899		
Pillar of Fire	1949	61	5,100		N.R.	N.R.		
Plymouth Brethren	**1983**	**1,100**	**98,000**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**	**500**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Polish National Catholic Church of America	1960	162	282,411		141	141		
Presbyterian Church in America	**1982**	**797**	**149,548**	**129,699**	**N.R.**	**1,415**	**797**	**74,508**
Presbyterian Church in the United States*	**1982**	**4,250**	**814,931**	**814,931**	**3,339**	**6,077**	**4,000**	**375,256**
Primitive Advent Christian Church	**1983**	**10**	**566**	**566**	**10**	**10**	**N.R.**	**450**
Primitive Baptists	1960	1,000	72,000		N.R.	N.R.		
Primitive Methodist Church, U.S.A.	1981	87	9,978		58	90		
Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.	1967	655	521,692		N.R.	863		
The Protestant Conference (Lutheran)	**1982**	**10**	**1,605**	**1,325**	**8**	**8**	**10**	**211**
Protestant Reformed Churches in America	1980	21	4,544		19	31		
Reformed Church in America	**1982**	**915**	**346,293**	**211,168**	**842**	**1,902**	**915**	**104,326**
Reformed Church in the United States	**1982**	**30**	**3,710**	**2,941**	**26**	**32**	**30**	**516**
Reformed Episcopal Church	1980	70	6,200		61	101		
Reformed Mennonite Church	1970	12	500		18	21		
Reformed Methodist Union Episcopal Church	1976	17	3,800		17	26		
Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America	1981	67	4,836		62	95		
Reformed Zion Union Apostolic Church	1965	50	16,000		23	N.R.		
Religious Society of Friends (Conservative)	1979	27	1,832		None	None		
Religious Society of Friends (Unaffiliated Meetings)	1980	112	6,386		N.R.	N.R.		
Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	**1982**	**1,061**	**201,460**	**201,460**	**16,533**	**16,733**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
The Roman Catholic Church	**1982**	**24,071**	**52,068,774**	**N.R.**	**35,356**	**57,870**	**10,088**	**7,852,311**
The Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America	**1982**	**34**	**40,000**	**40,000**	**42**	**69**	**28**	**1,377**
Russian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A., Patriarchal Parishes of the	1975	41	51,500		55	60		
The Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia	1955	81	55,000		92	168		
The Salvation Army	**1982**	**1,060**	**419,475**	**121,860**	**2,344**	**5,119**	**979**	**103,304**
The Schwenkfelder Church	**1982**	**5**	**2,700**	**2,700**	**10**	**13**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Second Cumberland Presbyterian Church in the US	1959	121	30,000		121	125		

TABLE 1-A: UNITED STATES CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT STATISTICS—Continued

Religious Body	Year Reported	No. of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members	No. of Pastors Serving Parishes	Total No. of Clergy	No. of Sunday or Sabbath Schools	Total Enrollment
Separate Baptists in Christ	**1982**	**100**	**8,800**	**8,800**	**160**	**160**	**100**	**9,000**
Serbian Eastern Orthodox Church for the U.S.A. and Canada	**1982**	**75**	**97,123**	**97,123**	**57**	**73**	**68**	**3,186**
Seventh-Day Adventists	**1982**	**3,826**	**606,310**	**606,310**	**2,038**	**4,541**	**3,935**	**448,681**
Seventh Day Baptist General Conference	1980	63	5,008		33	69		
Social Brethren	1975	30	1,784		47	47		
Southern Baptist Convention	**1982**	**36,246**	**13,991,709**	**13,991,709**	**35,800**	**61,800**	**35,310**	**7,869,883**
Southern Methodist Church	1977	169	11,000		113	127		
Sovereign Grace Baptists	**1982**	**275**	**2,600**	**2,600**	**260**	**275**	**250**	**1,900**
Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch (Archdiocese of the U.S.A. and Canada)	**1982**	**13**	**30,000**	**N.R.**	**14**	**18**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Triumph The Church and Kingdom of God in Christ (International)	1972	475	54,307		860	1,375		
Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A.	1966	107	87,745		107	131		
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of America (Ecumenical Patriarchate)	1977	28	25,000		32	35		
Unitarian Universalist Association	**1982**	**935**	**131,844**	**131,844**	**473**	**949**	**717**	**35,611**
United Brethren in Christ	**1982**	**256**	**26,869**	**26,869**	**320**	**382**	**256**	**27,282**
United Christian Church	1976	11	430		5	11		
United Church of Christ	**1982**	**6,461**	**1,716,723**	**1,716,723**	**5,171**	**10,029**	**6,421**	**471,003**
United Free Will Baptist Church	1952	836	100,000		784	915		
United Holy Church of America	1960	470	28,980		379	400		
The United Methodist Church	1981	38,298	9,457,012		20,764	36,676		
United Pentecostal Church, International	**1982**	**3,300**	**465,000**	**310,000**	**3,521**	**6,659**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
The United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America*	**1982**	**8,909**	**2,342,441**	**2,342,441**	**8,217**	**15,093**	**8,909**	**803,386**
United Zion Church	**1983**	**13**	**929**	**929**	**17**	**20**	**13**	**1,108**
Unity of the Brethren	1964	32	6,142		13	13		
Vedanta Society	**1983**	**13**	**1,000**	**1,000**	**1**	**1**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Volunteers of America	1978	607	36,634		704	704		
The Wesleyan Church	**1982**	**1,725**	**105,221**	**94,903**	**1,319**	**2,384**	**1,725**	**202,102**
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod	**1982**	**1,151**	**412,529**	**312,195**	**1,035**	**1,349**	**1,098**	**47,208**

* In this **Yearbook**, in Directory 3, "Religious Bodies in the United States," the Presbyterian Church in the United States and the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America are shown together under Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), which was created in 1983 by a merger of these two bodies. The statistics, covering the year 1982, are still shown separately for each merging body, however, since they were gathered separately by each body prior to the merger.

Table 1-B: SUMMARY OF UNITED STATES CURRENT AND NON—CURRENT STATISTICS

Current statistics are those reported for the years 1983 or 1982. Non-current statistics are those for the years 1981 and earlier. Only current totals are provided in the categories: Full, Communicant, or Confirmed Members; Number of Sunday or Sabbath Schools; Total Enrollment.

	No. of Bodies	No. of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members	No. of Pastors Serving Parishes	Total No. of Clergy	No. of Sunday or Sabbath Schools	Total Enrollment
1984 Yearbook								
Current	113	221,074	109,112,282	44,648,448	238,133	371,921	171,657	32,181,920
Non-Current	106	120,037	30,490,777	N.R.	91,669	146,642	N.R.	N.R.
Totals	219	341,111	139,603,059		329,802	518,563		
1983 Yearbook								
Current	116	214,593	106,750,090	45,709,982	192,784	356,390	161,601	31,647,076
Non-Current	102	124,460	29,702,524	N.R.	98,938	152,062	N.R.	N.R.
Totals	218	339,053	136,452,614		291,722	508,452		

TABLE 1-C: SOME COMPARATIVE UNITED STATES CHURCH STATISTICS

	1982	1983
Church Membership as a Percent of U.S. Population	59.7	59.6
Membership Gain or Loss over Previous Year	3,635,671	1,150,445
Percentage or Gain or Loss over Previous Year	2.69	0.83

TABLE 1-D: CANADIAN CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT STATISTICS

The following table provides current and non-current statistics for Canadian denominations listed alphabetically. Current statistics, defined as those gathered and reported for 1983 and 1982 are shown in **bold face** type. Non-current statistics are those for 1981 and earlier, and appear in light face.

Religious Body	Year Reported	No. of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members	No. of Pastors Serving Parishes	Total No. of Clergy	No. of Sunday or Sabbath Schools	Total Enrollment
The Anglican Church of Canada	**1982**	**3,320**	**914,022**	**567,855**	**1,690**	**2,951**	**1,959**	**103,312**
The Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America	1972	4	25,000		4	4		
Apostolic Christian Church (Nazarean)	1981	13	808		42	42		
Apostolic Church in Canada	**1982**	**9**	**810**	**810**	**9**	**13**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Apostolic Church of Pentecost of Canada	1981	124	12,000		131	216		
Armenian Church of North America, Diocese of Canada	1979	3	25,000		3	3		
Associated Gospel Churches	1977	102	11,558		76	174		
Baptist Federation of Canada	**1982**	**1,135**	**131,613**	**114,377**	**680**	**1,114**	**948**	**71,918**
Baptist General Conference	**1983**	**72**	**5,824**	**5,824**	**70**	**81**	**72**	**6,585**
Bible Holiness Movement	**1983**	**29**	**569**	**372**	**12**	**12**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Brethren in Christ Church, Canadian Conference	1981	32	2,978		21	43		
British Methodist Episcopal Church	1978	13	2,000		9	9		
Buddhist Churches of Canada	1979	15	2,543		10	10		
Canadian Baptist Conference	**1983**	**60**	**3,958**	**3,958**	**51**	**60**	**57**	**5,052**
Canadian Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends	**1982**	**35**	**1,100**	**1,100**	**None**	**None**	**14**	**120**
The Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada	**1982**	**280**	**47,662**	**20,322**	**220**	**275**	**289**	**42,531**
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	**1982**	**37**	**4,948**	**2,937**	**21**	**42**	**37**	**1,166**
Christian Churches and Churches of Christ	1981	69	5,035		63	112		
The Christian Congregation	**1982**	**26**	**2,756**	**2,756**	**26**	**26**	**26**	**1,819**
Christian Reformed Church in North America	**1982**	**198**	**83,076**	**44,326**	**162**	**208**	**176**	**20,042**
Church of God (Anderson, Ind.)	**1982**	**51**	**2,884**	**2,884**	**39**	**56**	**49**	**3,436**
Church of God (Cleveland, Tenn.)	1979	58	2,314		32	43		
The Church of God of Prophecy of Canada	**1982**	**32**	**1,724**	**1,724**	**N.R.**	**76**	**36**	**2,407**
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Canada	**1982**	**355**	**104,000**	**85,000**	**1,085**	**1,215**	**355**	**96,000**
Church of the Lutheran Brethren	**1982**	**11**	**580**	**323**	**7**	**10**	**10**	**581**
Church of the Nazarene	**1982**	**147**	**9,514**	**9,485**	**109**	**205**	**137**	**17,255**
Churches of Christ	1981	133	6,000		125	125		
Conference of Mennonites in Canada	**1982**	**148**	**57,655**	**27,655**	**261**	**425**	**148**	**19,403**
Congregational Christian Churches in Ontario, The Conference of	**1982**	**5**	**274**	**274**	**3**	**10**	**5**	**196**
The Coptic Church in Canada	**1983**	**6**	**22,000**	**22,000**	**6**	**6**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
The Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church	**1982**	**13**	**7,503**	**7,503**	**8**	**12**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**

TABLE 1-D: CANADIAN CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT STATISTICS—Continued

Religious Body	Year Reported	No. of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members	No. of Pastors Serving Parishes	Total No. of Clergy	No. of Sunday or Sabbath Schools	Total Enrollment
Evangelical Baptist Churches of Canada, The Fellowship of	1981	418	54,000		N.R.	N.R.		
The Evangelical Church in Canada	1982	44	3,625	3,625	33	63	44	4,183
The Evangelical Covenant Church of Canada	1982	23	1,218	1,218	18	25	21	1,769
Evangelical Free Church of Canada	1982	94	9,344	4,675	56	78	92	6,782
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada	1982	314	84,000	59,875	200	310	168	14,937
Evangelical Mennonite Conference	1982	45	5,247	5,247	77	112	N.R.	N.R.
Evangelical Mennonite Mission Conference	1983	24	2,705	2,603	20	52	23	3,128
Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada	1982	40	2,509	2,509	64	84	39	1,655
Free Methodist Church in Canada	1982	128	6,427	4,867	103	208	122	11,489
Free Will Baptists	1982	17	1,000	600	6	9	15	675
General Church of the New Jerusalem in Canada	1982	3	540	340	4	7	3	80
The Gospel Missionary Association	1981	13	N.R.		10	44		
Greek Orthodox Diocese of Toronto	1977	41	220,000		41	41		
Independent Assemblies of God—Canada	1977	45	4,500		125	185		
Independent Holiness Church	1971	12	N.R.		12	13		
The Italian Pentecostal Church of Canada	1976	16	2,755		12	12		
Jehovah's Witnesses	1982	1,104	73,812	73,812	None	None	N.R.	N.R.
Jews	1977	112	305,000		N.R.	N.R.		
The Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	1982	12	2,600	2,330	5	10	3	105
Lutheran Church—Canada	1982	353	94,800	69,908	211	306	280	19,071
Lutheran Church in America—Canada Section	1982	339	122,840	90,968	230	394	311	20,285
Mennonite Brethren Churches Canadian Conference of the	1982	150	27,306	23,306	172	192	150	16,949
Mennonite Church (Canada)	1982	122	10,623	10,623	124	186	97	10,600
Metropolitan Community Churches, Universal Fellowship of	1983	8	1,600	600	5	5	N.R.	N.R.
The Missionary Church of Canada	1982	84	5,872	5,872	82	114	78	8,492
Moravian Church in America—Northern Province, Canadian District of the	1982	7	1,842	1,270	8	12	6	561
North American Baptist Conference	1982	106	16,635	16,635	101	154	106	10,640
Old Order Amish Church	1981	14	1,960		56	56		
The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada	1981	969	134,662		N.R.	1,169		
Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland	1982	163	34,000	26,800	128	188	163	17,871
Plymouth Brethren (Also known as Christian Brethren)	1982	600	52,000	52,000	N.R.	250	N.R.	N.R.
Polish National Catholic Church	1982	13	6,000	4,000	11	14	N.R.	N.R.

TABLE 1-F: NUMBER OF UNITED STATES CHURCHES, AND OF MEMBERS, BY RELIGIOUS GROUPS

The 219 U.S. religious bodies reporting in this edition of the **Yearbook** may be classified somewhat arbitrarily, into seven major categories.

It should be reiterated that comparisons of statistics of the various religious groups tabulated below are not meaningful because definitions of membership vary greatly from one religious body to another. For example, Roman Catholics count all baptized individuals, including infant members, as do many Protestant bodies. Some Protestant bodies, however, count as members those who have been received into the church at baptism, which usually takes place at around age 13, thereby leaving out of official counts of membership many millions of children. Jewish statistics are estimates of the number of individuals in households in which one or more Jews reside and, therefore, include non-Jews living in such households as the result of intermarriage. The total number of persons in Jewish households is estimated to be 8 percent larger than the number of Jewish persons residing in these households.

The definition of membership in each case is of necessity left up to the religious body itself, and the statistics reported by various religious bodies are not adjusted by the editor of the **Yearbook.**

	Number Bodies Reporting	Number of Churches	Number of Members
Buddhists	1	62	100,000
Eastern Churches	18	1,632	3,859,668
Jews*	1	3,500	5,725,000
Old Catholic, Polish National Catholic, Armenian Churches	7	427	924,861
Protestants**	186	310,284	76,754,009
Roman Catholic	1	24,071	52,088,774
Miscellaneous***	5	1,135	150,747
Totals	219	341,111	139,603,059

*Including Orthodox, Conservative, and Reformed branches.

**Some bodies included here are, strictly speaking, not "Protestant" in the usual sense, such as various Latter-Day Saints groups and Jehovah's Witnesses.

***This is a grouping of bodies officially non-Christian, including those such as Spiritualists, Ethical Culture Movement, and Unitarian-Universalists.

TABLE 1-H: CHURCH MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS, 1940-1982

Compiled by Constant H. Jacquet Jr., Editor.

The following statistical time series for 30 U.S. denominations is presented in this edition of the **Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches** as a response to a number of requests for such a tabulation. The denominations selected represent a cross-section of theological orientations, ecclesiastical structures, and geographical foci. Reliability and completeness in statistical reporting were the criteria used in selecting the bodies. Many conclusions can be drawn from the material presented below but interpretations are left to the user of the statistics. The reader is referred to the qualifications relating to statistical data stated throughout this statistical and historical section and in "A Guide for the User of Church Statistics" on page vi.

Denomination	1940	1947*	1950	1955
American Lutheran Church	(1,129,349)	N.A.	(1,587,152)	(1,911,641)
Assemblies of God[b]	198,834	241,782	318,478	400,047
Baptist General Conference	N.A.	N.A.	48,647[c]	54,000
Christian and Missionary Alliance**	22,832[d]	N.A.	56,347	57,109[e]
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	1,658,966	1,889,066	1,767,964	1,897,736
Church of God (Anderson, Ind.)	74,497	95,325	107,094	123,523
Church of God (Cleveland, Tenn.)	63,216	N.A.	121,706[f]	142,668
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	724,401[d]	911,279	1,111,314	1,230,021
Church of the Brethren	176,908	182,497	186,201	195,609
Church of the Nazarene	165,532	201,487[g]	226,684	270,576
Cumberland Presbyterian Church	73,357	75,427	81,806	84,990
Episcopal Church	1,996,434	2,155,514	2,417,464	2,852,965[h]
Evangelical Covenant Church of America	45,634	N.A.	51,850	55,311
Free Methodist Church of North America	45,890	46,783[g]	48,574	51,437
Jehovah's Witnesses	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	187,120
Lutheran Church in America	(1,988,277)	N.A.	(2,365,356)	(2,760,442)
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod	1,277,097	1,422,513	1,674,901	2,004,110
Mennonite Church	51,304	52,596	56,480	70,283
North American Baptist Conference	N.A.	N.A.	41,560	47,319
Presbyterian Church in the U.S.	532,135	596,037	678,206	810,917
Reformed Church in America	255,107	274,455	284,504	319,593
Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints	106,554	116,888	124,925	137,856
Roman Catholic Church	21,284,455	24,402,124	28,634,878	33,396,647
Salvation Army	238,357	205,881	209,341	249,641
Seventh-day Adventists	176,218	208,030	237,168	277,162
Southern Baptist Convention	4,949,174	6,079,305	7,079,889	8,467,439
United Church of Christ	(1,708,146)	(1,835,853)	(1,977,418)	(2,116,322)
United Methodist Church	(8,043,454)	(9,135,248)	(9,653,178)	(10,029,535)
United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.	(2,158,834)	(2,373,345)	(2,532,429)	(2,890,718)
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod	256,007[d]	259,097	307,216	328,969

*Reported in the **Christian Herald,** June, 1947. Only bodies of 50,000 or more reported.
(a) Data for 1966
(b) Assemblies of God statistics for 1971 and later are full membership statistics.
(c) Data for 1952
(d) Data for 1939
(e) Data for 1954
(f) Data for 1951
(g) Data for 1945
(h) Data for 1956
(j) Data for 1961
(k) Adjusted downward to eliminate Canadian membership previously reported.
**A change in the basis of reporting occurred in this body and statistics from 1970 are inclusive statistics as opposed to those reported earlier.

FOR SELECTED U.S. DENOMINATIONS

Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches

(Note: Statistics contained in parentheses are composite totals for the denominations listed prior to merger of the several component bodies. The symbol NA means "Not Available." Most recent titles are used in the case of denominations listed. For information concerning dates and circumstances of merger, see the historical sketches for these denominations in Directory 3, "Religious Bodies in the United States" in this edition.)

1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1981	1982
2,242,259	2,541,546	2,543,293	2,415,687	2,353,229	2,346,207	2,346,710
508,602	572,123	625,027	785,348	1,064,490	1,103,134	1,119,686
72,056	86,719	103,955	115,340	133,385	127,662	129,728
59,657	64,586	112,519	145,833	189,710	195,042	204,713
1,801,821	1,918,471	1,424,479	1,302,164	1,177,984	1,173,135	1,156,458
142,796	143,231	150,198	166,257	176,429	178,581	184,685
170,261	205,465	272,278	343,249	435,012	456,797	463,992
1,486,887	1,789,175	2,073,146	2,336,715	2,811,000	2,840,000	2,864,000
199,947	194,815	182,614	179,336	170,839	170,267	168,844
307,629	343,380	383,284	441,093	484,276	492,203	498,491
88,452	78,917	92,095	94,050	96,553	97,599	97,813
3,269,325	3,429,153[a]	3,285,826	2,857,513	2,786,004	2,767,440	2,794,139
60,090	65,780	67,441	71,808	77,737	79,523	81,324
55,338	59,415	64,901	67,043	68,477	69,949	70,657
250,000	330,358	388,920	560,897	565,309	588,503	619,188
(3,053,243)	3,142,752	3,106,844	2,986,078	2,923,260	2,921,829	2,925,655
2,391,195	2,692,889	2,788,536	2,763,545	2,625,650	2,636,715	2,630,823
73,125	80,087	88,522	94,209	99,511	99,651	101,501
50,646	53,711	55,080	42,122[k]	43,041	43,146	42,735
902,849	950,139	958,195	878,126	838,485	823,143	814,931
354,621	385,754	367,606	355,052	345,532	345,762	346,293
155,291	168,355	152,670	157,762	190,087	N.A.	201,460
42,104,900	46,246,175	48,214,729	48,881,872	50,449,842	51,207,579	52,088,774
254,141	287,991	326,934	384,817	417,359	414,999	419,475
317,852	364,666	420,419	495,699	571,141	588,536	606,310
9,731,591	10,770,573	11,628,032	12,733,124	13,600,126	13,782,644	13,991,709
(2,241,134)	2,070,413	1,960,608	1,818,762	1,736,244	1,726,244	1,716,723
(10,641,310)	(11,067,497)	10,509,198	9,861,028	9,519,407	9,457,012	N.A.
3,259,011	3,034,321	3,087,213	2,657,699	2,423,601	2,379,249	2,342,441
348,184[l]	358,466	381,321	395,440	407,043	410,288	412,529

TABLE 1-I: INCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP, 54 COMPILATIONS

The following are the figures reported on inclusive membership in religious bodies in the U.S. in 54 compilations, between 1890 and 1982 as reported in the Census of Religious Bodies, as indicated, and by private publications. For years omitted, no compilations were made.

1890	41,699,342	(CRB)[1]	1956	103,224,954	(YBAC)
1906	35,068,058	(CRB)	1957	104,189,678	(YBAC)
1916	41,926,852	(CRB)	1958	109,557,741	(YBAC)
1926	54,576,346	(CRB)	1959	112,226,905	(YBAC)
1931	59,268,764	(CH)[2]	1960	114,449,217	(YBAC)
1932	60,157,392	(CH)	1961	116,109,929	(YBAC)
1933	60,812,624	(CH)	1962	117,946,002	(YBAC)
1934	62,007,376	(CH)	1963	120,965,238	(YBAC)
1935	62,678,177	(CH)	1964	123,307,449	(YBAC)
1936	55,807,366	(CRB)	1965	124,682,422	(YBAC)
1936	63,221,996	(CH)	1966	125,778,656	(YBAC)
1937	63,848,094	(CH)	1967	126,445,110	(YBAC)
1938	64,156,895	(YBAC)[3]	1968	128,469,636	(YBAC)
1940	64,501,594	(YBAC)	1969	128,505,084	(YBAC)
1942	68,501,186	(YBAC)	1970	131,045,053	(YBAC)
1944	72,492,699	(YBAC)	1971	131,389,642	(YBAC)
1945	71,700,142*	(CH)	1972	131,424,564	(YBAC)
1946	73,673,182*	(CH)	1973	131,245,139	(YBAC)
1947	77,386,188	(CH)	1974	131,871,743	(YBAC)
1948	79,435,605	(CH)	1975	131,012,953	(YBACC)[4]
1949	81,862,328	(CH)	1976	131,897,539	(YBACC)
1950	86,830,490	(YBAC)	1977	131,812,470	(YBACC)
1951	88,673,005	(YBAC)	1978	133,388,776	(YBACC)
1952	92,277,129	(YBAC)	1979	133,469,690	(YBACC)
1953	94,842,845	(YBAC)	1980	134,816,943	(YBACC)
1954	97,482,611	(YBAC)	1981	138,452,614	(YBACC)
1955	100,162,529	(YBAC)	1982	139,603,059	(YBACC)

Note: For certain other years *Christian Herald*, New York, published compilations of "communicant" or adult membership only. These totals are not included in the table because they are not comparable with the inclusive figures here noted.

[1] CRB—*Census of Religious Bodies*, Bureau of the Census, Washington.

[2] CH—*The Christian Herald*, New York.

[3] YBAC—*Yearbook of American Churches*, New York.

[4] YBACC—*Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches*, New York.

*Including only bodies with over 50,000 members.

As a general record of the trends in church membership since 1890, the above table is very useful since it presents the results of fifty-four compilations made by various statisticians. It is the only record existing on church membership. Although the table follows a logical progression upwards over time, it is by no means without its faults.

There are certain qualifications relating to the above data that should be kept in mind. First of all, aggregate data on inclusive membership, while accounting for the bulk of church membership, is always incomplete. A small number of religious bodies do not have membership statistics. Further, some religious groups, but not many major ones, are excluded from these totals by virtue of the definitions used for a "religious body" by the various compilers of these data.

Secondly, the totals here reported are additions of both current and non-current data which is made necessary because not all religious bodies gather and report statistics each year yet all bodies in the total must be aggregated each year for sake of completeness.

Thirdly, definitions of inclusive membership vary from one religious body to another. Some count only full members and exclude probationary members, children, and those nominally related while other religious bodies include this wider grouping. Occasionally an individual body will go from the more restrictive to the more inclusive definition over time. A third category of religious bodies has no actual statistical records and only make estimates of inclusive membership which roughly parallel the ethnic and cultural community to which they relate.

Lastly, these compilations were made by three different organizations from data derived from the religious bodies themselves; the U.S. Bureau of the Census made five compilations, *The Christian Herald* made twelve, and the **Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches** (formerly Yearbook of American Churches), made thirty-six. Criteria for defining inclusive membership has not been completely standard over the 92-year period of these compilations.

2. CHURCH FINANCIAL STATISTICS AND RELATED DATA, UNITED STATES AND CANADA

For this edition of the **Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches,** complete financial data were supplied by 40 United States communions. The results are presented in the table entitled "Some Statistics of Church Finances—United States Churches." The data are complete for each communion in the three major categories of reporting. It will be noted that Total Contributions are the sum total of Total Congregational Finances and Total Benevolences.

Similarly, data were supplied by 30 Canadian church bodies. The information is included in the table "Some Statistics of Church Finances—Canadian Churches." Both the U.S. and Canadian data are current, and incomplete information submitted by denominations has been excluded from the tables.

A third table, "Summary Statistics of Church Finances," provides totals for the U.S. and Canadian bodies. The 40 U.S. bodies report total contributions of $10,902,028,177 and the 30 Canadian groups $634,823,550 (Canadian). It must be remembered however, that some of the Canadian groups are not wholly Canadian denominations but, rather, sections of denominations existing and headquartered in the U.S. A majority of the 30 bodies listed in the table "Some Statistics of Church Finances—Canadian Churches" are strictly Canadian denominations. Per capita contributions for full membership of U.S. communions amounted to $261.95 and for the Canadian bodies, $321.86 (Canadian). Benevolences as a percentage of total contributions amounted to 19.3 percent for the U.S. bodies and 23.0 percent for the Canadian.

Readers of the tables should be aware of the fact that the Canadian and U.S financial data appearing in this section are only a significant part of total contributions from members of all communions. Not all bodies in the U.S. and Canada gather church financial data centrally, and some have information but do not reveal it publicly. Additionally, little is known about other major segments of church financial income such as earned income, interest from investments, and bequests.

Comparisons between this year's aggregate financial data and those in previous editions of the **Yearbook** should not be made, since the same bodies do not report financial data each year. However, for an individual denomination, or groups of denominations, reporting annually over time, comparisons can be made.

Comparative data for ten major Protestant denominations in the U.S. among the 40 listed in this section show a total 1982 full membership of 24,553,222 or 121,017 fewer members than the same churches total for 1981. These members increased total giving in the ten denominations by 8.1 percent. When this is compared with a 3.9 percent inflation in the U.S. in 1982, the total effect is increased real income for these denominations. For Canada, comparative statistics for ten communions indicate a decrease in membership from 1981 to 1982 to a total of 1,828,626 and an increase in giving of $62,548,313 (Canadian) to a total of $520,112,446 (Canadian). Assuming an inflation rate in Canada of 10.8 percent for 1982, the total contributions of these ten communions show an increase, after inflation, of $13,131,387 (Canadian).

The other statistical charts and tables as well as the textual and bibliographical materials in the section present useful background information for interpreting church finances. The data are completely new and come from both Canadian and U.S. sources.

SOME STATISTICS OF CHURCH FINANCES

COMMUNION	Year	Full or* Confirmed Membership	Inclusive** Membership	TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS Total Contributions	Per Capita Full or Confirmed Membership	Per Capita Inclusive Membership
American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.	1981	1,621,795	1,621,795	$267,977,722	$165.24	$165.24
The American Lutheran Church	1982	1,758,239	2,346,710	436,859,309	248.46	186.16
Baptist General Conference	1983	129,928	129,928	67,360,787	518.45	518.45
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	1982	770,227	1,156,458	261,486,499	339.49	226.11
Christian and Missionary Alliance	1982	112,745	204,713	93,802,000	831.98	458.21
Church of God General Conference, Oregon, IL	1983	5,781	5,781	2,282,735	394.87	394.87
Church of God (Anderson, Indiana)	1982	184,685	184,685	102,068,406	552.66	552.66
Church of the Brethren	1982	168,844	168,844	47,908,983	283.75	283.75
Church of the Lutheran Confession	1982	6,545	8,986	2,077,448	317.41	231.19
Church of the Nazarene	1982	497,261	498,491	256,278,102	515.38	514.11
Churches of God, General Conference	1982	34,241	34,241	12,090,868	353.11	353.11
Conservative Congregational Christian Conference	1982	26,008	26,008	11,804,680	453.89	453.89
Cumberland Presbyterian Church	1982	91,774	97,813	21,303,543	232.13	217.80
The Episcopal Church	1982	1,922,205	2,794,139	778,184,068	404.84	278.51
Evangelical Congregational Church	1983	27,203	39,710	9,087,769	334.07	228.85
The Evangelical Covenant Church	1982	81,324	81,324	51,430,402	632.42	632.42
Evangelical Lutheran Synod	1982	15,165	20,025	4,572,799	301.54	228.35
Evangelical Mennonite Brethren Conference	1982	2,047	2,047	1,717,632	839.10	839.10
Evangelical Mennonite Church	1982	3,832	3,832	2,717,400	709.14	709.14
Free Methodist Church of North America	1982	54,198	70,657	43,108,027	795.38	610.10
Friends United Meeting	1982	50,601	59,338	12,931,395	255.56	217.93
The Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	1982	11,810	13,526	1,793,000	151.82	132.56
Lutheran Church in America	1982	2,176,265	2,925,655	518,781,783	238.38	177.32
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod	1982	1,981,260	2,630,823	543,926,002	274.54	206.75
Mennonite Church	1982	101,501	101,501	51,564,612	508.02	508.02
Missionary Church, Inc.	1982	25,371	25,371	21,424,759	844.46	844.46
Moravian Church in America, Northern Province	1982	24,669	32,053	6,861,872	278.16	214.08
Moravian Church in America, Southern Province	1982	17,764	21,618	4,289,679	241.48	198.43
North American Baptist Conference	1982	42,735	42,735	21,900,467	512.47	512.47
Presbyterian Church in America	1982	129,699	149,548	82,492,076	636.03	551.61
Presbyterian Church in the United States	1982	814,931	814,931	333,890,073	409.71	409.71
Reformed Church in America	1982	211,168	346,293	102,089,085	483.45	294.81
Reformed Church in the United States	1982	2,941	3,710	961,274	326.85	259.11
Seventh-day Adventists	1982	606,310	606,310	436,315,372	719.62	719.62
Southern Baptist Convention	1982	13,991,709	13,991,709	3,114,675,160	222.60	222.60
United Church of Christ	1982	1,708,847	1,708,847	376,463,260	220.30	220.30
The United Methodist Church	1981	9,457,012	9,457,012	1,794,706,741	189.78	189.78
The United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.	1982	2,342,441	2,342,441	835,665,706	356.75	356.75
The Wesleyan Church	1982	94,903	105,221	67,786,439	714.27	644.23
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod	1982	312,195	412,529	99,390,243	318.36	240.93

*Full or Confirmed Membership refers to those with full, communicant, or confirmed status.

**Inclusive Membership refers to those who are full, communicant, or confirmed members, plus other members listed as baptized, nonconfirmed, or noncommunicant

—UNITED STATES CHURCHES

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES			BENEVOLENCES			
Total Congregational Contributions	Per Capita Full or Confirmed Membership	Per Capita Inclusive Membership	Total Benevolences	Per Capita Full or Confirmed Membership	Per Capita Inclusive Membership	Benevolences As a Percentage of Total Contributions
$227,931,461	$140.54	$140.54	$40,046,261	$24.70	$24.70	14.9%
359,848,865	204.66	153.34	77,010,444	43.80	32.82	17.6
54,409,317	418.77	418.77	12,951,470	99.68	99.68	19.2
227,178,861	294.95	196.44	34,307,638	44.54	29.67	13.1
74,714,000	662.68	364.97	19,088,000	169.30	93.24	20.4
1,864,735	322.56	322.56	418,000	72.31	72.31	18.3
84,896,806	459.68	459.68	17,171,600	92.98	92.98	16.8
35,064,568	207.68	207.68	12,844,415	76.07	76.07	26.8
1,696,342	259.18	188.78	381,106	58.23	42.41	18.3
221,947,940	446.34	445.24	34,330,162	69.04	68.87	13.4
9,836,763	287.28	287.28	2,254,105	65.83	65.83	18.6
9,230,111	354.90	354.90	2,574,569	98.99	98.99	21.8
18,600,022	202.67	190.16	2,703,521	29.46	27.64	12.7
658,936,497	342.80	235.83	119,247,571	62.04	42.68	15.3
7,196,283	264.54	181.22	1,891,486	69.53	47.63	20.8
42,599,609	523.83	523.83	8,830,793	108.59	108.59	17.2
3,767,977	248.47	188.16	804,822	53.07	40.19	17.6
696,660	340.33	340.33	1,020,972	498.77	498.77	59.4
1,985,890	518.24	518.24	731,510	190.90	190.90	26.9
35,056,434	646.82	496.15	8,051,593	148.56	113.95	18.7
10,334,180	204.23	174.16	2,597,215	51.33	43.77	20.1
1,600,000	135.48	118.29	193,000	16.34	14.27	10.8
435,564,519	200.14	148.88	83,217,264	38.24	28.44	16.0
468,468,156	236.45	178.07	75,457,846	38.09	28.68	13.9
33,583,338	330.87	330.87	17,981,274	177.15	177.15	34.9
17,400,036	685.82	685.82	4,024,723	158.63	158.63	18.8
6,049,857	245.24	188.75	812,015	32.92	25.33	11.8
3,307,339	186.18	152.99	982,340	55.30	45.44	22.9
17,302,952	404.89	404.89	4,597,515	107.58	107.58	21.0
61,743,727	476.06	412.87	20,748,349	159.97	138.74	25.2
267,298,640	328.00	328.00	66,591,433	81.71	81.71	19.9
82,656,050	391.42	238.69	19,433,035	92.03	56.12	19.0
751,821	255.63	202.65	209,453	71.22	56.46	21.8
136,877,455	225.75	225.75	299,437,917	493.87	493.87	68.6
2,628,272,553	187.84	187.84	486,402,607	34.76	34.76	15.6
323,725,191	189.44	189.44	52,738,069	30.86	30.86	14.0
1,389,977,880	146.98	146.98	404,728,861	42.80	42.80	22.6
702,925,307	300.08	300.08	132,740,399	56.67	56.67	15.9
55,577,817	585.63	528.20	12,208,622	128.64	116.03	18.0
80,712,900	258.53	195.65	18,677,343	59.83	45.28	18.8

TABLE 1-D: CANADIAN CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT STATISTICS—Continued

Religious Body	Year Reported	No. of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members	No. of Pastors Serving Parishes	Total No. of Clergy	No. of Sunday or Sabbath Schools	Total Enrollment
Presbyterian Church in America	**1982**	**7**	**414**	**317**	**N.R.**	**15**	**7**	**160**
The Presbyterian Church in Canada	**1982**	**1,037**	**203,503**	**163,474**	**948**	**1,051**	**N.R.**	**45,339**
Reformed Church in Canada	**1982**	**27**	**6,891**	**3,813**	**24**	**41**	**27**	**2,095**
Reformed Doukhobors, Christian Community and Brotherhood of	**1982**	**1**	**2,250**	**2,250**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**173**
Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	**1982**	**79**	**12,504**	**12,504**	**1,063**	**1,063**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
Rineland Mennonite Church	**1982**	**7**	**1,350**	**1,200**	**12**	**14**	**7**	**674**
The Roman Catholic Church in Canada	**1982**	**5,787**	**10,425,087**	**N.R.**	**7,340**	**12,626**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
The Romanian Orthodox Church in America (Canadian Parishes)	1972	19	16,000		19	19		
The Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America (Jackson, Mich.)	**1982**	**13**	**8,000**	**8,000**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**594**
Russian Orthodox Church in Canada, Patriarchal Parishes of the	**1983**	**24**	**5,000**	**5,000**	**4**	**6**	**2**	**40**
Serbian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A. and Canada	**1982**	**17**	**18,494**	**18,494**	**11**	**13**	**17**	**485**
Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Canada	**1982**	**273**	**34,027**	**34,027**	**141**	**253**	**311**	**25,256**
Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church of Canada	1970	118	140,000		N.R.	75		
Union of Spiritual Communities of Christ (Orthodox Doukhobors in Canada)	1972	25	21,300		None	None		
Unitarian Universalist Association	**1982**	**49**	**4,729**	**4,729**	**14**	**15**	**21**	**871**
United Brethren in Christ, Ontario Conference	**1983**	**10**	**910**	**910**	**10**	**13**	**10**	**919**
The United Church of Canada	**1982**	**4,246**	**2,201,925**	**891,975**	**2,062**	**3,962**	**3,630**	**252,237**
United Pentecostal Church in Canada	**1982**	**145**	**23,000**	**23,000**	**N.R.**	**180**	**N.R.**	**N.R.**
The Wesleyan Church	**1982**	**78**	**5,341**	**4,818**	**55**	**110**	**78**	**12,125**
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod	**1982**	**8**	**974**	**722**	**7**	**7**	**7**	**176**

TABLE 1-E: SUMMARY OF CANADIAN CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT STATISTICS

Current statistics are those reported for the year 1983 or 1982. Non-current statistics are those for the years 981 and earlier. Only current totals are provided in the categories: Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members; Number of Sunday or Sabbath Schools; Total Enrollment.

	No. of Bodies	No. of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Full, Communicant or Confirmed Members	No. of Pastors Serving Parishes	Total No. of Clergy	No. of Sunday or Sabbath Schools	Total Enrollment
1984 **Yearbook**								
Current	60	21,548	14,922,418	2,560,401	17,797	28,949	10,143	882,238
Non-Current	23	2,372	995,411	N.R.	791	2,375	N.R.	N.R.
Totals	83	23,920	15,917,829		18,588	31,324		
1983 **Yearbook**								
Current	59	22,721	14,928,826	2,675,183	16,075	29,086	9,712	840,981
Non-Current	23	928	834,204	N.R.	1,526	1,919	N.R.	N.R.
Totals	82	23,649	15,763,030		17,601	31,005		

TABLE 1-G: CONSTITUENCY OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE U.S.A.

A separate tabulation has been made of the constituent bodies of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and is given below:

Religious Body	Year	Number of Churches	Inclusive Membership	Pastors Serving Parishes
African Methodist Episcopal Church	1981	6,200	2,210,000	6,050
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church	1982	6,023	1,134,179	6,000
American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.	1981	5,939	1,621,795	4,034
The Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America	1977	110	152,000	120
Armenian Church of America, Diocese of the (including Diocese of California)	1979	66	450,000	45
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	1982	3,983	1,156,458	3,983
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church	1981	2,883	786,707	2,483
Church of the Brethren	1982	1,063	168,844	N.R.
Community Churches, National Council of	1979	185	190,000	210
Coptic Orthodox Church	1983	29	100,000	27
The Episcopal Church	1982	7,095	2,794,139	7,549
Friends United Meeting	1982	535	59,338	274
General Convention, the Swedenborgian Church	1981	39	1,820	24
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America	1977	535	1,950,000	610
Hungarian Reformed Church in America	1982	31	11,000	27
Lutheran Church in America	1982	5,815	2,925,655	5,124
Moravian Church in America				
Northern Province	1982	98	33,092	95
Southern Province	1982	56	21,618	57
National Baptist Convention of America	1956	11,398	2,668,799	7,598
National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.	1958	26,000	5,500,000	26,000
Orthodox Church in America	1978	440	1,000,000	457
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends	1967	202	(1965) 16,965	(1965) 23
Polish National Catholic Church of America	1960	162	282,411	141
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*				
Presbyterian Church in the United States	1982	4,250	814,931	3,339
United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America	1982	8,909	2,342,441	8,217
Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.	1967	655	521,892	N.R.
Reformed Church in America	1982	915	346,293	842
Russian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A., Patriarchal Parishes of the	1975	41	51,500	55
Serbian Eastern Orthodox Church for the U.S.A. and Canada	1982	75	97,123	57
Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch (Archdiocese of the U.S.A. and Canada)	1982	13	30,000	14
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of America (Ecumenical Patriarchate)	1977	28	25,000	32
United Church of Christ	1982	6,461	1,716,723	5,171
The United Methodist Church	1981	38,298	9,457,012	20,764
Total (31) bodies		138,532	40,637,535	109,422

* In 1983, there was a merger of these two Presbyterian bodies to form the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The data reported here, however, are for 1982 and cannot be combined. The next edition will show unified statistics for the PCUSA.

SOME STATISTICS OF CHURCH FINANCES

COMMUNION	Year	Full or* Confirmed Membership	Inclusive** Membership	TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS[a] Total Contributions	Per Capita Full or Confirmed Membership	Per Capita Inclusive Membership
The Anglican Church of Canada	1982	567,855	914,022	$122,158,347	$ 215.12	$133.65
Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec	1982	33,158	44,246	22,030,476	664.41	497.91
Baptist General Conference of Canada	1983	5,824	5,824	6,406,186	1,099.96	1,099.96
Baptist Union of Western Canada	1982	15,363	20,511	13,035,567	848.50	635.54
The Bible Holiness Movement	1983	372	569	78,536	211.12	138.02
The Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada	1982	20,322	47,662	36,786,820	1,810.20	771.83
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	1982	2,937	4,948	1,214,051	413.36	245.35
Church of the Nazarene	1982	9,485	9,514	6,735,037	710.07	707.91
Conference of Mennonites in Canada	1982	27,655	57,655	13,070,545	472.63	226.70
Evangelical Church in Canada	1982	3,625	3,625	2,704,113	745.97	745.97
The Evangelical Covenant Church of Canada	1982	1,218	1,218	1,339,210	1,099.52	1,099.52
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada	1982	59,875	84,000	13,521,480	225.83	160.97
Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada	1982	2,509	2,509	2,456,988	979.27	979.27
Free Methodist Church in Canada	1982	4,867	6,427	5,949,605	1,222.44	925.72
The Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	1982	2,300	2,600	326,000	139.92	125.38
Lutheran Church—Canada	1982	69,908	94,800	19,095,291	273.14	201.43
Lutheran Church in America—Canada Section	1982	90,968	122,840	24,640,068	270.86	200.59
Mennonite Brethren Churches, Canadian Conference of	1982	23,306	23,306	21,458,235	920.72	920.72
Mennonite Church (Canada)	1982	10,623	10,623	6,694,753	630.21	630.21
The Missionary Church of Canada	1982	5,872	5,872	$6,582,065	$1,120.93	$1,120.93
Moravian Church in America, Northern Province, Canadian District of	1982	1,270	1,842	736,002	579.53	399.57
North American Baptist Conference	1982	16,635	16,635	16,077,343	966.48	966.48
Presbyterian Church in America	1982	317	414	258,416	815.19	624.19
The Presbyterian Church in Canada	1982	163,474	203,503	52,013,056	318.18	255.59
Reformed Church in Canada	1982	3,813	6,891	2,882,388	755.94	418.28
Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada	1982	34,027	34,027	31,459,525	924.55	924.55
Union d'Eglises Baptistes Françaises au Canada	1982	912	1,912	340,500	373.35	178.08
United Baptist Convention of the Atlantic Provinces	1982	64,944	64,944	19,038,152	293.15	293.15
The United Church of Canada	1982	724,095	1,517,211	179,369,231	247.71	118.22
The Wesleyan Church	1982	4,818	5,341	6,365,562	1,321.21	1,191.83

[a]Although most denominations reported Canadian dollars for this table, certain denominations reported U.S. dollars. In order to standardize these amounts, U.S. dollars were multiplied by 1.2344, a factor which represents the average differential in exchange rates in 1982. Thus the totals are all expressed in Canadian dollar amounts.

SUMMARY STATISTICS

	Total Bodies	Full or* Confirmed Membership	Inclusive** Membership	TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS Total Contributions	Per Capita Full or Confirmed Membership	Per Capita Inclusive Membership
United States Communions	40	41,618,179	45,287,358	$10,902,028,177	$261.95	$240.73
Canadian Communions[b]	30	1,972,377	3,315,491	634,823,550	321.86	191.47

*Full or Confirmed Membership refers to those with full, communicant, or confirmed status.
**Inclusive Membership refers to those who are full, communicant, or confirmed members, plus other members baptized, nonconfirmed, or noncommunicant.
[b]Shown in Canadian dollars

CANADIAN CHURCHES

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES			BENEVOLENCES			
Total Congregational Contributions	Per Capita Full or Confirmed Membership	Per Capita Inclusive Membership	Total Benevolences	Per Capita Full or Confirmed Membership	Per Capita Inclusive Membership	Benevolences As a Percentage of Total Contributions
$95,663,221	$168.46	$104.66	$26,495,126	$46.66	$28.99	21.7%
19,137,556	577.16	432.53	2,892,920	87.25	65.38	13.1
5,552,350	953.36	953.36	853,838	146.60	146.60	13.3
10,241,784	666.65	499.33	2,793,783	181.85	136.21	21.4
31,735	65.31	55.77	46,801	125.81	82.25	59.6
29,430,268	1,448.20	617.48	7,356,552	362.00	154.35	20.0
1,065,019	362.62	215.24	149,032	50.74	30.11	12.3
6,113,287	644.52	642.56	621,750	65.55	65.35	9.2
6,564,226	237.36	113.85	6,506,319	235.27	112.85	49.8
1,942,659	535.91	535.91	761,454	210.06	210.06	28.2
1,067,612	876.53	876.53	271,598	222.99	222.99	20.3
11,148,872	186.20	132.72	2,372,606	39.63	28.25	17.6
2,356,953	939.40	939.40	100,035	39.87	39.87	4.0
4,574,651	939.93	711.79	1,374,954	282.51	213.93	23.1
268,000	123.61	110.76	38,000	16.31	14.62	11.7
14,955,691	213.93	157.76	4,139,600	59.21	43.67	21.7
20,967,408	230.49	170.69	3,672,660	40.37	29.90	14.9
13,905,045	596.63	596.63	7,553,190	324.09	324.09	35.2
4,286,502	403.51	403.51	2,406,251	226.70	226.70	36.0
$5,141,730	$875.64	875.64	1,440,335	245.29	245.29	21.9
622,339	490.03	337.86	113,663	89.50	61.71	15.4
$12,031,095	723.24	723.24	4,046,248	243.24	243.24	25.2
201,312	635.05	486.26	57,104	180.14	137.93	22.1
45,080,829	275.77	221.53	6,932,227	42.41	34.06	13.3
2,362,880	619.69	342.89	519,508	136.25	75.39	18.0
7,995,889	234.99	234.99	23,463,636	689.56	689.56	74.6
290,000	317.98	151.67	50,500	55.37	26.41	14.8
16,003,633	246.42	246.42	3,034,519	46.73	46.73	15.9
144,707,533	199.84	95.38	34,661,696	47.87	22.84	19.3
5,308,352	1,101.78	993.89	1,057,210	219.43	197.94	16.6

OF CHURCH FINANCES

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES			BENEVOLENCES			
Total Congregational Contributions	Per Capita Full or Confirmed Membership	Per Capita Inclusive Membership	Total Benevolences	Per Capita Full or Confirmed Membership	Per Capita Inclusive Membership	Benevolences As a Percentage of Total Contributions
$8,801,588,859	$211.48	$194.35	$2,100,439,318	$50.47	$46.38	19.3%
489,038,431	247.94	147.50	145,785,119	73.92	43.97	23.0

TOTAL GIVING IN 1982, CONTRIBUTIONS AND DISTRIBUTIONS (In Billions)

Contributions			Distributions		
		Percent of Total			Percent of Total
Individuals	$48.69	80.7%	Religion	$28.06	46.5%
Bequests	5.45	9.0	Education	8.59	14.2
Corporations	3.15	5.2	Health & Hospitals	8.41	13.9
Foundations	3.10	5.1	Social Welfare	6.33	10.5
			Arts & Humanities	4.96	8.2
			Civic & Public	1.67	2.8
			Other	2.37	3.9

Total giving by Americans was estimated at $60.39 billion during 1982, an increase of 11.7 percent over the $54.06 billion contributed in 1981, according to *Giving USA: 1983 Annual Report*, published by the American Association of Fund-Raising Counsel, New York. The AAFRC said overall giving in 1982 "was boosted substantially by a single bequest of $1.3 billion, and if that bequest were excluded from the total, giving would have risen by 9.3 percent." With inflation running at 3.9 percent the real growth in giving came to 5.4 percent without the billion-plus bequest and to 7.8 percent with it.

The AAFRC noted that "as a portion of all giving last year, religion received 46.5 percent, a little higher than in 1981. A good piece of each dollar given to religion is spent within local communities on social service programs, and much of the increase in giving to religious organizations in 1982 could be attributed to an increase in those programs."

CANADIAN PER TAXPAYER CHARITABLE DONATIONS, IN DOLLARS, AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL INCOME ASSESSED, FOR CANADA AND EACH PROVINCE, 1980.

	Donations in Dollars	Donations as % of Income Assessed
CANADA	$70.61	0.52%
Newfoundland	56.23	0.56
Prince Edward Island	73.92	0.75
Nova Scotia	65.36	0.58
New Brunswick	89.90	0.85
Quebec	29.53	0.23
Ontario	84.09	0.60
Manitoba	88.42	0.76
Saskatchewan	108.59	0.83
Alberta	93.93	0.60
British Columbia	79.36	0.52
Yukon	47.53	0.30
Northwest Territories	47.57	0.35

Source: Preliminary Taxation Statistics for 1980. Ottawa: Revenue Canada, Taxation, 1982.

RECIPIENTS OF GIVING, 1955-1982
(In Billions of Dollars)

	Religion	Education	Social Services	Health & Hospitals	Arts & Humanities	Civic & Public	Other
1955	$ 3.33	$ .733	$1.53	$ .596	$ .199	$ .075	$ .197
1956	3.75	.637	1.42	.920	.142	.070	.142
1957	4.02	.868	1.50	1.01	.159	.079	.254
1958	4.15	.977	1.47	1.14	.163	.082	.160
1959	4.56	1.34	1.43	1.15	.197	.090	.183
1960	4.79	1.50	1.41	1.13	.188	.094	.282
1961	5.01	1.57	1.47	1.18	.195	.098	.297
1962	5.25	1.68	1.57	1.36	.210	.112	.298
1963	5.58	1.93	1.71	1.48	.225	.114	.341
1964	5.91	2.05	1.69	1.45	.205	.157	.596
1965	6.51	2.26	1.86	1.46	.226	.173	.797
1966	7.06	2.35	1.91	2.07	.376	.230	.701
1967	7.40	2.45	1.89	2.82	.379	.231	.610
1968	8.22	2.93	2.11	3.02	.404	.228	.648
1969	8.85	3.17	2.54	3.23	.548	.391	.842
1970	9.30	3.24	2.88	3.40	.623	.415	.892
1971	9.98	3.56	2.92	3.65	.916	.594	1.22
1972	10.02	3.66	2.99	3.77	.930	.650	1.28
1973	10.52	4.10	3.06	4.15	1.25	.610	1.91
1974	11.94	4.14	3.12	4.29	1.30	.770	2.15
1975	12.91	3.85	3.04	4.32	1.66	.890	2.65
1976	14.22	4.39	3.16	4.83	2.31	1.07	2.44
1977	16.93	4.74	3.52	4.90	2.27	1.17	2.48
1978	18.45	5.55	3.97	5.48	2.50	1.18	2.54
1979	20.14	5.99	4.45	6.03	2.70	1.20	2.94
1980	22.15	6.78	4.83	6.59	3.06	1.37	3.37
1981	24.85	7.59	5.42	7.46	3.45	1.58	3.71
1982	26.06	8.59	6.33	8.41	4.96	1.67	2.37

Source: *Giving USA: 1983 Annual Report,* New York, American Association of Fund-Raising Counsel, p. 38.

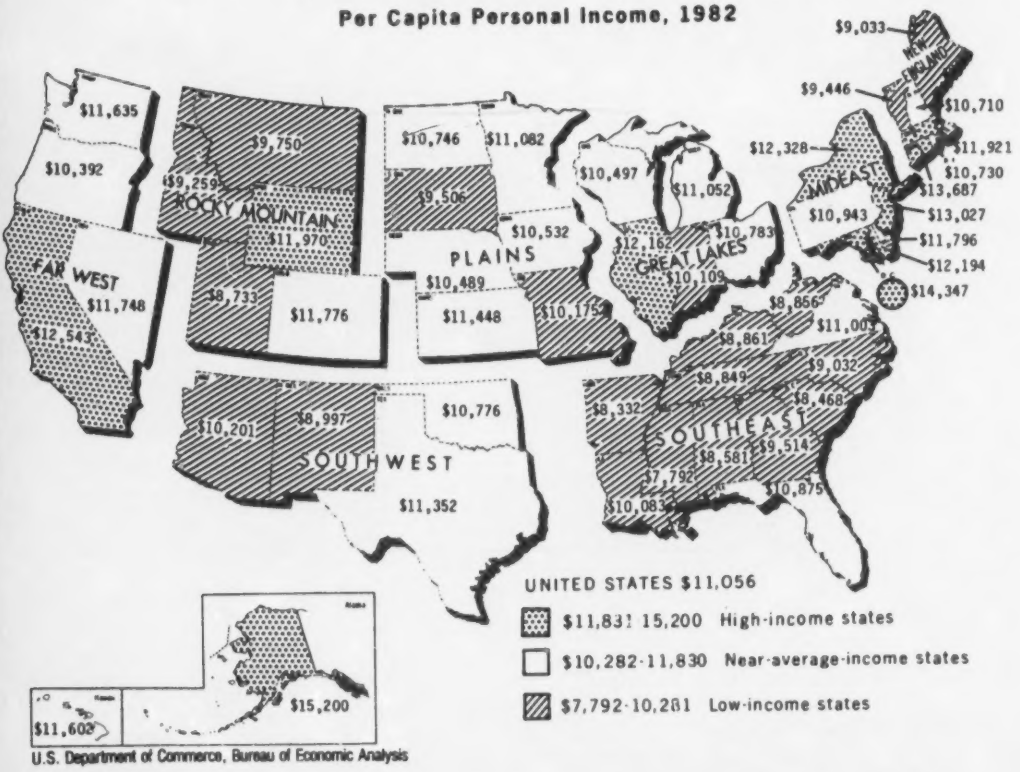
FAMILIES AND UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS BY TOTAL MONEY INCOME IN 1982

Total money income	Families Number (thousands)	Families Percent distribution	Unrelated Individuals Number (thousands)	Unrelated Individuals Percent distribution
Total	61,393	100.00	27,908	100.00
Under $2,000 - 4,999	3,684	6.0	6,707	24.0
$5,000 - 9,999	6,521	10.6	7,275	26.1
$10,000 - 14,999	7,653	12.5	4,902	17.6
$15,000 - 19,999	7,459	12.1	3,423	12.3
$20,000 - 24,999	7,575	12.3	2,301	8.2
$25,000 - 29,999	6,547	10.7	1,324	4.7
$30,000 - 34,999	5,438	8.9	782	2.8
$35,000 - 39,999	4,242	6.9	761	2.7
$40,000 - 49,999	5,573	9.1		
$50,000 - over	6,703	10.9	436	1.6
Median Income	$30,490		$9,977	
Mean Income	$34,471		$12,960	

Source: Adapted from U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Current Population Reports,* Series P-60, No. 140, "Money Income and Poverty Status of Families and Persons in the United States: 1982 (Advance Data From the March 1983 Current Population Survey)," U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1983, Table 6, p. 12. After adjustment for inflation, median family income declined by 1.4 percent in 1982. This decline was significantly less than either the 1980-81 decline of 3.5 percent or the 1979-80 decline of 5.5 percent.

CANADIAN PER CAPITA PERSONAL DISPOSABLE INCOME IN DOLLARS, 1982, WITH 1984 PROJECTIONS, BY PROVINCE

Source: The Financial Post Canadian Markets 1983. Toronto: Maclean Hunter Ltd., 1982.
Note: On the above map, the 1984 income projections are presented in parentheses.



Source: "U.S. Department of Commerce News," Bureau of Economic Analysis, BEA 83-21. Washington, D.C. 20230.

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PRETAX INCOME IN 1983 NECESSARY TO EQUAL 1970 AFTERTAX PURCHASING POWER

1970 PRETAX INCOME	$5,000	$10,000	$15,000	$25,000	$50,000
Less: Federal income tax	238	986	1,854	3,987	11,982
Less: Social Security tax	240	374	374	374	374
Equals: Income after Federal taxes	4,522	8,640	12,772	20,639	37,644
1983 NECESSARY PRETAX INCOME	$11,923	$24,190	$37,037	$62,382	$123,873
Less: Federal income tax	522	2,369	4,814	11,736	33,469
Less: Social Security tax	799	1,621	2,392	2,392	2,392
Less: Amount to cover inflation since 1970	6,050	11,560	17,089	27,615	50,368
Equals: Income after federal taxes, in 1970 dollars	4,522	8,640	12,772	20,639	37,644

Source: *Economic Road Maps*, No. 1948, April, 1983. The Conference Board, 845 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022.

The above data indicate, among other things, that to obtain an income after federal taxes of $12,772 (in 1970 dollars) in 1983, pretax income of $37,037 would be necessary, whereas in 1970 it took only $15,000. The amount to cover inflation alone since 1970 is $17,089.

Note: "Federal income and social security taxes are computed for a married couple, only one of whom works, with two children. No allowance is made for any other taxes."

UNITED STATES PERSONAL CONSUMPTION BY TYPE OF EXPENDITURES, 1979 and 1982 (In Billions of Dollars)

	1979	1982	Increase
Food and Tobacco[1]	$330.8	$421.9	27.5%
Clothing, Accessories, Jewelry	116.3	140.8	21.1
Personal Care	21.2	25.7	21.2
Housing	236.1	334.1	41.5
Household Operations	207.9	272.3	31.0
Medical Care Expenses	144.2	221.3	53.5
Personal Business	83.7	113.0	35.0
Transportation	219.4	269.8	23.0
Recreation	98.9	126.7	28.1
Private Education and Research	23.3	31.5	35.2
Religious and Welfare Activities	20.8	28.1	35.1
Foreign Travel and Other, Net[2]	4.6	6.7	45.7
Total	1,507.2	1,991.9	32.2

[1]Expenditures for Alcoholic Beverages, included in this category, amounted to $39.3 billion in 1979 and $49.1 billion in 1982, an increase of 24.9 percent. Tobacco product expenditures over the four-year period rose from $19.3 billion to $25.0 billion, an increase of 29.5 percent. Inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index, over the same period is placed at 33 percent.

[2]This is the net of cost of foreign travel plus expenditures abroad by a U.S. resident less expenditures by foreigners and personal remittances to them.

Source: Adapted from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Survey of Current Business*, July, 1983, Table 2.4—Personal Consumption Expenditures by Type of Expenditures.

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EFFECTS OF INFLATION ON PER CAPITA GIVING 1961-1982

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Somewhere between 38 and 52 religious bodies have been able to supply annually complete financial data on total contributions received. Total contributions are the sum of all benevolences plus all congregational finances. Representing roughly 20 percent of the total number of U.S. denominations and 30 percent of total U.S. membership reported to the *Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches*, giving to these bodies is approximately 40 percent of total church contributions in the U.S. in any given year.

At least four reasons why more denominations do not supply statistical data on church finances are: 1) the desire to keep the information confidential, 2) a belief that there are biblical restrictions against this type of accounting, 3) a lack of adequate statistical programs in denominations to report accurate membership and financial data, and 4) denominational polities that do not require full reporting to a central office.

The fragmentary information currently received, however, provides a good "sample" that helps to determine what is happening in the area of U.S. church contributions. It should be remembered that these are aggregate data and the experiences of individual denominations may vary from what is presented here.

Organized religion, like other privately financed agencies, is on the whole, struggling with powerful forces of inflation in the U.S. Although the dollar amounts of giving have increased from $69.00 per capita full member in 1961 to $261.95 in 1982, an increase of 280 percent, in constant 1967 dollars the increase is only from $77.01 in 1961 to $90.60 in 1982, an increase in real terms of only 17.6 percent. Therefore, much education and action in the area of stewardship has been necessary to defend the financial structure of organized religion.

DENOMINATIONAL PER CAPITA FULL MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS, AND ADJUSTED TO 1967 DOLLARS, 1961–1982

Year	No. of Denoms.	Per Capita Full Member	Constant 1967 Dollars
1961	46	$69.00	$77.01
1962	42	68.76	75.89
1963	41	69.87	76.19
1964	41	72.04	77.55
1965	38	77.75	82.38
1966		(Not Reported)	
1967		(Not Reported	
1968	52	95.31	91.47
1969	48	99.68	90.78
1970	45	96.84	83.27
1971	42	103.94	85.69
1972	39	$110.29	$88.02
1973	40	118.16	88.77
1974	44	127.16	86.09
1975	43	138.54	85.94
1976	43	149.07	87.43
1977	45	159.33	87.78
1978	42	176.37	90.26
1979	44	197.44	90.82
1980	40	213.41	86.47
1981	45	239.71	88.00
1982	40	261.95	90.60

3. SOME TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS

This section begins with "Religion in Canada: Findings from the 1981 Census." This is followed by "Clergy Salaries and Income in 1982 in Eleven U.S. Denominations" and concludes with "Trends in Seminary Enrollment: 1977-1983" which has appeared for many years here.

RELIGION IN CANADA: FINDINGS FROM THE 1981 CENSUS

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In June 1981 the Canadian federal government department called Statistics Canada conducted the regular decennial census of population. Unlike the United States, Canada does not make as absolute a separation of church and state, so every ten years since 1871 Canadians have been asked about their religious persuasion. No membership criteria or degree of involvement in religious activity are investigated. The question asked is simply, "What is your religion?" and the resultant statistics differ markedly from those collected by various denominations from their own congregations. Nevertheless, the census data do give an overview of the relative sizes of religious bodies for the whole of the country, and for smaller geographic areas, and when compared with the figures collected in previous censuses, reveal patterns of change.

For most Canadians, the question is of the check-off variety. Fourteen of the larger religious bodies are listed on the census form. Another box is titled "No religion," and for those who cannot check any one of these fifteen options, there is an "Other" category, where they may write in their particular religious persuasion. (The Canadian census is "self-enumerating," the forms being completed by the residents themselves; less than one percent of persons have to be enumerated by a census-taker.)

Geography of Religious Preference

Like previous Canadian censuses, the 1981 count reveals a country in which nearly half the population is Catholic (the vast majority Roman Catholic, with a much smaller number who are Ukrainian Catholic or "other" Catholic); another quarter say they are either United Church (a union of Methodist, Congregational, Evangelical United Brethren churches, and part of the Presbyterian Church) or Anglican (Episcopalian). So Canadians of all other religious persuasions (or none) total only one quarter of the population. Table 1 presents this information, with percentages for Canada as a whole and for each of its ten provinces and two territories, showing the six most populous religious groups in each geographic unit (seven for Canada as a whole).

As well as being the predominant religion for Canada as a whole, Catholicism is also the religion of more persons than any other religious persuasion in all regions except British Columbia. Catholicism is especially strong in Canada's second most populous province, Quebec, where the people are mainly French-Canadian, and to a lesser degree in New Brunswick, where approximately one-third are French-speaking. The United Church is the second most numerous group in most areas, with the Anglicans usually third, except in such areas as Newfoundland and the north (the territories) where they rank second. Baptists are proportionally more numerous in the eastern (Maritime) provinces, with Lutherans and Mennonites in larger numbers in the western (Prairie) provinces. Presbyterians show modest strength in Ontario, the most populous province, and in Prince Edward Island, the least. The Salvation Army and Pentecostals have significant proportions only in Newfoundland. Those claiming to have no religion are now the largest single group in the westernmost province, British Columbia, and rank third or fourth in all other areas west of the Maritime provinces except Saskatchewan, where they are fifth.

Growth and Decline in Religious Preference

Growth has been uneven, when the major religious bodies (and those of "no religion") are compared. Table 2 gives the percentages of the total Canadian population in each of the fourteen largest groups as of 1981, for each of the four most recent decennial censuses, with percent changes for the decade 1971 to 1981. These latter percentage changes compare numbers within each group in 1981 with numbers in the same group for 1971. The table also provides the Canadian population increase

SELECTED AVERAGE CANADIAN EXPENDITURES, BY SIZE OF AREA OF RESIDENCE
AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL EXPENDITURES
(ALL FAMILIES AND UNATTACHED INDIVIDUALS)

		Urban				
	All Classes	500,000 and over	100,000 – 499,999	30,000 – 99,999	Under 30,000	Rural
Total Expenditures	$19,034	$20,519	$19,576	$18,506	$17,541	$16,774
Selected Items:						
Food	16.8%	16.6%	15.7%	16.5%	17.1%	17.9%
Shelter	16.1	16.7	16.8	16.1	15.3	14.4
Transportation	12.7	11.5	12.6	12.2	13.5	16.0
Clothing	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.0	6.9
Recreation	5.0	4.7	5.2	5.5	5.4	4.8
Security (e.g. Savings, Insurance)	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.2	3.9	3.6
Alcoholic Beverages	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.8
Cigarettes and Tobacco	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
Reading	.6	.6	.6	.6	.5	.5
Charitable Gifts:						
Religious Crganizations	.5	.4	.7	.5	.6	.7
Other Organizations	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2
Average Family Size	2.93	2.78	2.83	2.87	2.96	3.35
Percentage who are Homeowners	63.3%	51.4%	63.6%	62.5%	69.7%	85.5%

Source: *Family Expenditure in Canada, Vol. 3. All Canada: Urban and Rural,* 1978. Ottawa: Statistics Canada, 1982, Catalogue No. 62-551. Adapted from Table 31.

It is interesting to note that although those in Canada with higher family income give more in dollar amounts, in terms of percentages, the poorer families give more proportionately.

There is evidence that this is also true in the United States and, further, that a higher percentage of family income is given to religious organizations in the United States than in Canada.

TABLE 1: LARGEST RELIGIOUS GROUPS, CANADA, ITS PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES, 1981, WITH PERCENTAGES OF TOTAL POPULATION

CANADA	*Newfoundland*	*Prince Edward Island*	*Nova Scotia*	*New Brunswick*	*Quebec*
Cath..... 47.3	Cath..... 36.3	Cath..... 46.6	Cath..... 37.0	Cath..... 53.9	Cath..... 88.2
United..... 15.6	Angl..... 27.2	United..... 24.5	United..... 20.2	Bapt..... 12.8	Angl..... 2.1
Angl..... 10.1	United..... 18.6	Presby..... 10.4	Angl..... 15.6	United..... 12.7	No Rel..... 2.1
No Rel..... 7.3	Sal. A..... 8.0	Angl..... 5.6	Bapt..... 12.1	Angl..... 9.6	United..... 2.0
Presby..... 3.4	Pent..... 6.6	Bapt..... 5.0	Presby. 4.6	Pent..... 3.1	Jews..... 1.6
Luth..... 2.9	No Rel..... 1.0	No Rel..... 2.6	No Rel..... 4.0	No Rel..... 2.8	E. Orth..... 1.2
Bapt..... 2.9					

Ontario	*Manitoba*	*Saskatchewan*	*Alberta*	*British Columbia*	*Yukon*	*Northwest Territories*
Cath..... 35.6	Cath..... 31.5	Cath..... 27.7	Cath..... 27.7	No Rel..... 20.5	Cath..... 24.2	Cath..... 40.1
United..... 19.4	United..... 23.7	United..... 27.5	United..... 23.7	United..... 20.2	Angl..... 20.2	Angl..... 33.6
Angl..... 13.6	Angl..... 10.7	Luth..... 9.3	No Rel..... 11.5	Cath..... 19.8	No Rel..... 19.5	United..... 8.2
No Rel..... 7.1	No Rel..... 7.3	Angl..... 8.1	Angl..... 9.1	Angl..... 13.8	United..... 14.2	No Rel..... 6.4
Presby..... 6.1	Menn..... 6.9	No Rel..... 6.2	Luth..... 6.5	Luth..... 4.5	Bapt..... 4.4	Pent..... 3.4
Bapt..... 3.4	Presby..... 2.4	Menn..... 3.1	Bapt..... 3.0	Presby..... 3.3	Luth..... 4.0	Bapt..... 1.5

from 1971 to 1981, 11.7%. Any religious body which did *not* experience at least an 11.7% increase during the same period, even though it may have more adherents in 1981 than it had in 1971, has not grown at the same rate the country has.

The Catholics, the largest group, have increased at the same rate as the Canadian population, 11.8% compared with 11.7%. The "mainline" Protestant churches have not: 6.9% fewer persons claimed to be Presbyterian in 1981 than in 1971, as did 4.2% for Anglicans, 1.8% for Lutherans, and 0.3% for the United Church. The Baptists and Salvation Army had 4.4% and 4.5% more persons respectively claiming association with them, but this is below the population increase of 11.7%, so proportionally they too are "weaker" than they were in 1971. Jewish people are also weaker proportionally, with a modest 7.4% increase in numbers.

Other groups showed gains in proportional strength. The "Eastern Non-Christians" appear to have experienced a gain of near 900% during the ten-year period. This figure is probably exaggerated, perhaps because a considerable number in 1971 may not have admitted to being "non-western" in their religion. Nevertheless, Eastern non-Christians, particularly Islam (98,165 in 1981), Hindu (69,500), Sikh (67,710), and Buddhist (51,955) are obviously the fastest-growing group in the country. Immigration figures tend to confirm this. In the fifteen-year period from 1955 to 1969, there were 1,125,000 immigrants to Canada from Europe and the United States, and only one-tenth as many—115,000—from Asia. Yet in the twelve-year period from 1970 to 1981, immigration from Europe and the United States dropped by half, to 565,000, while immigration from Asia almost quadrupled, to 400,000. It is not surprising therefore that 305,885 residents of Canada in 1981 said their religion was in one of the Eastern non-Christian groups.

Those claiming to have no religion increased in Canada by 88.5% between 1971 and 1981, from 925,575 to 1,752,385. This increase is alarming for the churches, particularly the mainline Protestant denominations, who appear to have been the principal "losers" in the exchange. The loss may not be as large as it appears, since some now claiming to have no religion may simply have become more honest about their lack of "faith"; in 1971 these same people may have been naming the "church they stayed away from" because saying one had no religion was not considered fashionable. Still, there is obviously a real increase. British Columbia, which proportionally has the greatest concentration of those with "no religion," saw the statistics for this group increase from 13.1% of the population in 1971 to 20.5% in 1981. Ontario, which currently has the greatest number of "no religion" claimants, witnessed a numerical increase from 343,690 in 1971 to 607,830 in 1981.

Among Protestant groups, the Pentecostals were the only big winners, with a ten-year increase of 53.7%, passing those of the Jewish faith during this period, in total numbers. Pentecostal growth has occurred in all provinces and both territories. The Mennonites and the Eastern Orthodox have experienced more modest gains.

The most striking losses were among Jehovah's Witnesses, who prior to 1971 had been doubling their numbers each decade. Yet from 1971 to 1981 they experienced a loss of 17.9%, their numbers decreasing by 31,325, from 174,810 to 143,485.

TABLE 2: POPULATION BY SELECTED RELIGIONS, CANADA: PERCENTAGES, 1951, 1961, 1971, 1981 AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE, 1971-1981

	1951	1961	1971	1981	Change: 1971-1981
Catholic[1]	44.7%	46.7%	47.3%	47.3%	+ 11.8%
United Church	20.5	20.1	17.5	15.6	− 0.3
Anglican	14.7	13.2	11.8	10.1	− 4.2
No Religion	0.4	0.5	4.3	7.3	+ 88.5
Presbyterian	5.6	4.5	4.0	3.4	− 6.9
Lutheran	3.2	3.6	3.3	2.92	− 1.8
Baptist	3.7	3.3	3.1	2.89	+ 4.4
Eastern Orthodox[2]	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.5	+ 14.2
Pentecostal	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.4	+ 53.7
Eastern Non-Christian[3]	...	...	0.1	1.3	+900.9
Jewish	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	+ 7.4
Mennonite[4]	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	+ 22.5
Jehovah's Witnesses	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.6	− 17.9
Salvation Army	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	+ 4.5
Other	2.2	2.9	2.4	3.1	+ 41.0
CANADA: Population Percentage Increase					+ 11.7

[1]Includes Roman Catholic, Ukrainian Catholic, and Polish National Catholic Church
[2]Includes Greek Orthodox, Ukrainian Orthodox, Russian Orthodox, other Orthodox
[3]Includes Bahai, Buddhist, Hindu, Islam, Sikh, other Eastern non-Christian
[4]Includes Hutterite

Sources:

Profile Studies: Canada's Religious Composition. Ottawa: Statistics Canada, 1976.

1981 Census of Canada: Highlight Information on . . . Religion . . . . Ottawa: Statistics Canada, 1983.

CLERGY SALARIES AND INCOME IN 1982 IN ELEVEN U.S. DENOMINATIONS

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Not since the termination of the clergy support study series of 1964, 1969 and 1974 has definitive data on the salary, income and attitudes of a wide sample of Protestant clergy been available.

Recently, an opportunity arose to obtain some information on salaries and income of clergy in eleven U.S. denominations in 1982. The Office of Research, Evaluation and Planning and the Professional Church Leadership section of the Division of Education and Ministry of the National Council of Churches were able to include questions on clergy compensation and related matters in a questionnaire survey of continuing education conducted by Dr. Connolly Gamble, Executive Secretary of the Society for the Advancement of Continuing Education for Ministry (SACEM).

What follows are the highlights of responses to questions provided by 1,983 clergy respondents out of a scientifically-selected sample of 5,400 in eleven U.S. and one Canadian denomination, a response rate of 36.7 percent. The Canadian salary data were not run off from the computer and are not reported here. The participating denominations, and numbers and percentage of return for each, follow.

It is not possible to account for the low percentage of response in some denominations nor to say whether a higher response would have significantly changed median and mean (average) salaries.

Denomination	*No. of Q'rs Returned*	*% of Response*
American Baptist Churches (ABC)	315	63%
American Lutheran Church (ALC)	203	46
Lutheran Church in America (LCA)	207	30
Reformed Church in America (RCA)	68	45
Southern Baptist Convention (SBC)	61	13
Presbyterian Church in the U.S. (PCUS)	148	50
Episcopal Church (TEC)	183	42
United Church of Canada (UCA)	118	59
United Church of Christ (UCC)	186	43
United Methodist Church (UMC)	266	19
United Presbyterian Church (UPC)	204	45
Seventh Day Baptist Churches (SDB)	24	75
	1,983	36.7

Age and Sex

Table 1, below, shows that of the clergy responding, 4.3 percent were women and this closely parallels the percentage of women clergy found by other surveys of those denominations ordaining women to the full ministry. It is interesting to note that women clergy are younger than the male clergy. In a previous study of clergy salaries in 1973, the median age of women respondents was 52 years, six years older than the male clergy. This dramatic shift may be due in part to the rapidly accelerating growth in these denominations of women being ordained in the last decade.

TABLE 1: AGE AND SEX

	No Answer	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*
No answer	1	4	0	5 (0.3%)
under 35	2	414	52	468 (23.6)
35-44	2	498	17	517 (26.1)
45-54	4	540	8	552 (27.9)
55-64	3	378	9	390 (19.7)
65 & over	0	49	0	49 (2.4)
	12	1,883	86	1,981
		(95.1%)	(4.3%)	

Educational Level by Sex

Table 2 shows that 4.1 percent of the male clergy responding to the questionnaire had less than a seminary education whereas all 76 female clergy had a seminary or advanced degree. In "Clergy Support—1973" by Bonn and Kelly, published by Professional Church Leadership in 1974, of the 124 women responding only "41 percent . . . [had] a seminary or higher theological degree compared with 69 percent of the male ministers." This suggests a shift toward higher educational achievement for women in the past decade.

TABLE 2: EDUCATIONAL LEVEL BY SEX

	No Answer	High School	College	Seminary	Advanced Degree	Number
Male	0.1%	1.1%	2.9%	72.2%	23.7%	1,765
Female	0	0	0	90.8	9.2	76

Median and Mean Salary

Turning to median and mean salary* by denominations, shown in Table 3, the median salary range averaged for all denominations was $20-22,000 and the mean (average) salary was $20,790. Clergy salaries vary greatly among the eleven denominations ranging from a high of $24,420 to a low of $12,670. Salaries in the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. rank first outranking the Episcopal Church, American Lutheran Church, Lutheran Church in America, and United Methodist Church, all of which outranked PCUS in "Clergy Support—1973." It is useful to look at the mean salary for a denomination and compare it with the median range. For example, the mean for the SDB is at the lower end of the median range suggesting that there are not many high salaries to bring up the mean. For the next lowest salary, the UMC, the mean is above the high range of the median suggesting the existence of high salaries to bring up the mean or at least a broader spread of differential among salaries.

*In the current study "salary" is defined as salary, plus insurance, medical/surgical, housing and utilities. "Clergy Support—1973" defined salary as cash salary, miscellaneous income, housing and utilities.

TABLE 3: MEDIAN SALARY RANGE AND MEAN BY DENOMINATION

Denomination	*Median Salary Range*	*Mean Salary*	*Rank*
ABC	$20-22,000	$20,530	7
ALC	22-24,000	22,080	4
TEC	22-24,000	23,680	2
LCA	20-22,000	22,400	3
PCUS	22-24,000	24,420	1
RCA	20-22,000	22,070	5
SBC	18-20,000	19,070	9
UCC	18-20,000	19,610	8
UMC	16-18,000	18,440	10
UPC	20-22,000	21,720	6
SDB	12-14,000	12,670	11

Median Salary Range $20-22,000
Mean Salary $20,790 (1,825 cases)

Salary and Age

Table 4, below, suggests that the salary range for male clergy declines during ages 55-64 and, again more dramatically, after age 65. This trend is in keeping with salary data generally in that peak earnings seem to occur at ages 35-54 which corresponds exactly with clergy salaries. For women clergy, however, there is no notable increase in salary range with age.

TABLE 4: SALARY AND AGE

	Male			Female			Total		
Age	*Salary Range*	*No.*	*%*	*Salary Range*	*No.*	*%*	*Salary Range*	*No.*	*%*
No answer		3	0.2%		2	2.6%		5	0.3%
under 35	$18-20,000	392	22.5	$14-16,000	46	59.7	$18-20,000	438	24.1
35-44 yrs.	22-24,000	456	26.2	14-16,000	14	18.2	22-24,000	470	25.9
45-54 yrs.	22-24,000	500	28.7	under 12,000	8	10.4	22-24,000	508	27.9
55-64 yrs.	20-22,000	342	19.7	16,000	7	9.1	20-22,000	349	19.2
65 & over	16-18,000	47	2.7	0	0	0	16-18,000	47	2.6
		1,740			77			1,817	

Salary and Years in Present Position

Regarding salary and years in present position, the data indicate that those staying in a position 1 to 3 years had a median salary range of $18-20,000; those staying from 4 to 6 years increased to the $20-22,000 range; those staying from 7-14 years reached the high level of $22-24,000 and then the salary range declined to $20-22,000 for those staying from 15 to 19 years and increased again to $22-24,000 for those staying from 20-30 years. This suggests that length of service in a single local church doesn't change salary range much. Over a 30-year span, salaries increased no more than one-third and after 7-9 years in a local church, the average pastor had reached the highest range of remuneration.

Salary and Years as Ordained Minister

Similar to what was discovered about salary and years in present position, those ordained from 1-3 years had a median salary range of from $16-18,000. Salary increases to the $18-20,000 range from those ordained 4-5 years and levels off at a range of $22-24,000 for those ordained 10-29 years. After 30 years or more, the median salary range drops to $20-22,000.

Salary and Present Position

A striking difference between compensation for male and female clergy is demonstrated in Table 5, below, showing that in all full time categories of pastor, associate and assistant, women clergy earn consistently less than male clergy. The median salary was $20-22,000 for males and $14-16,000 for females. Those receiving a salary of over $22,000 were 733 males, or 44 percent of the total, and 3 females, or 4 percent of the total female clergy. None of the female clergy had a salary above $28,000.

TABLE 5: SALARY AND PRESENT POSITION

	Male		*Female*	
Position	*Median Salary Range*	*No.*	*Median Salary Range*	*No.*
Full Time Pastor	$20-22,000	1,674	$14-16,000	44
Full Time Associate	$22-24,000	101	$18-20,000	15
Full Time Assistant	$20-22,000	21	$18,000	4

Salary and Educational Level

As one might suspect, the median salary range of clergy increases with education as Table 6 indicates:

TABLE 6: SALARY AND EDUCATIONAL LEVEL

Educational Level	*Median Salary Range*	*Number*
No Answer		2
High School	$12-14,000	18
College	$16-18,000	52
Theological Seminary	$20-22,000	1,335
Advanced Degree	$22-24,000	420

One disturbing aspect of this table is seen in conjunction with women clergy and their education. Table 2, above, indicated that 90.8 percent of women had a seminary degree and 9.2 percent had an advanced degree, and the median salary of women was $14-16,000. Women clergy, therefore, are being compensated at below the college level of education as indicated in Table 6, above. It appears that for women clergy their compensation is far below the standard for their level of education. It is as if they hadn't gone to seminary at all!

Salary and Total Family Income

With a median salary range of $20-22,000 and a mean salary of $20,790, it is obvious that clergy depend upon additional income in order to maintain an adequate living standard and raise families. As in the case of many other households, outside income generated by a working spouse, an additional job, and income from savings and investments provide a significant addition to salary. Table 7, below, indicates for eleven U. S. denominations the salary and total income for 1,825 clergy.

TABLE 7: MEAN SALARY AND TOTAL INCOME OF CLERGY IN ELEVEN U.S. DENOMINATIONS

Denomination	*Salary*	*Rank Order*	*Total Income*	*Rank Order*	*Additional Income Beyond Salary*
PCS	$24,420	1	$32,037	1	$7,617
TEC	23,680	2	28,663	3	4,983
LCA	22,400	3	29,782	2	7,382
ALC	22,080	4	26,610	6	4,530
RCA	22,070	5	25,776	7	3,706
UPC	21,720	6	27,220	4	5,500
ABC	20,530	7	25,498	8	4,968
UCC	19,610	8	24,955	9	5,345
SBC	19,070	9	27,138	5	8,066
UMC	18,440	10	24,374	10	5,534
SDB	12,670	11	16,167	11	3,497
	Median income range			$24-26,000	
	Mean total income			$26,631	

Salary Range and Additional Family Income

Approximately two-thirds of U.S. clergy had more than salary as a source of total income and those with salaries of $34-40,000 yearly had the highest percentage of family income. This prompted an observer to say: "To whom much is given, even *more* is given." Table 8, below, illustrates this.

TABLE 8: SALARY AND TOTAL FAMILY INCOME

Salary Range	*Had Only Salary*	*Had Family Income In Addition*
Under $12,000	23.5%	76.5%
$12-14,000	40.8	59.2
$14-16,000	33.3	66.7
$16-18,000	45.7	54.3
$18-20,000	34.6	65.4
$20-22,000	25.3	74.7
$22-24,000	25.7	74.3
$24-26,000	30.6	69.4
$26-28,000	32.0	68.0
$28-30,000	24.7	75.3
$30-32,000	31.1	68.9
$32-34,000	26.8	73.2
$34-36,000	13.0	87.0
$36-38,000	17.6	82.4
$38-40,000	21.1	78.9

Regional Differences in Salary

Considerable variation in median salary ranges was indicated in this study with the lowest median salary range of $22-24,000 found in the West North Central States and the highest at $28-30,000 found in the South Atlantic, West South Central and Pacific states. The New England, Middle Atlantic, East North Central, East South Central and Mountain States were in the middle range of $24-26,000.

Clergy Salaries and Inflation

It is possible to get an approximation on the overall increase in clergy compensation and for denominations participating in each study, by looking at the salary data reported in "Clergy Support—1973" and comparing it with the current data, realizing that the definition of salary and the number and type of denominations reporting to each study differed somewhat.

The median salary reported in 1973 was $10,348 and in the current study it was $20,790 in 1982. For clergy salaries to have kept up with inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index which rose by 118.1 percent from 1973 to 1982, they would have had to rise to $22,569. Obviously, salaries of clergy have not kept pace with inflationary increases in the past decade.

Clergy Salaries in Relationship to Other Professions

In "Clergy Support—1973," clergy salaries were compared with those of attorneys, personnel directors, university professors, chemists and accountants and were found to be at the bottom. A comparison today with all but university professors indicates that this is still true. Journeyman (grade 3) attorneys had a median salary of $39,649 in 1982; chemists, $28,016; and accountants $25,673, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Personnel Directors (level 1) had a median salary of $31,136. None of these professions, except for accountants, had salary increases equal to inflationary increases during the period 1973-1982.

TRENDS IN SEMINARY ENROLLMENT 1977–1983

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The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada

Seminary enrollments continued their growth in size again this year, increasing by +4.7% to reach a new high of 55,112 persons registered. This growth rate exceeded the rise in all of higher education by more than 300%, once again indicating that general postsecondary enrollment trends do not apply to schools of theology in any direct way. Each year, entering seminary students appear to be a bit older than their predecessors, many coming from other careers, and fewer each year direct from college. Hence the demographically based predictions about higher education thus far do not appear to be applicable to theological schools. Table 1 provides summaries of enrollment from recent years.

TABLE 1
AUTUMN ENROLLMENTS IN ATS MEMBER SCHOOLS

	1977	*1978*	*1979*	*1980*	*1981*	*1982*	*1983*
Number of Schools	191	193	193	194	193	196	195
Total Enrollment	45,222	46,460	48,433	49,611	50,559	52,620	55,112
By Nation							
Canada	2,100	2,288	2,707	2,731	2,735	2,961	3,081
United States	43,122	44,172	45,726	46,880	47,824	49,659	52,031
By Membership							
Accredited	41,303	42,839	44,654	45,952	47,182	48,887	51,495
Not Accredited	3,919	3,621	3,779	3,659	3,377	3,733	3,617
Professional Pgms.	41,665	42,823	44,374	45,571	46,930	48,742	50,971
% of Total	92.1%	92.2%	91.6%	91.9%	92.8%	92.6%	92.5%
Graduate Programs	3,557	3,637	4,059	4,040	3,629	3,878	4,141
% of Total	7.9%	7.8%	8.4%	8.1%	7.2%	7.4%	7.5%

Table 2, reported here for only the second time, reflects the new factor in seminary registrations noted above. Since World War II higher education generally has been experiencing significant numbers of mature persons, often employed full- or part-time, wishing to engage in degree/credit study. Colleges and universities have had to accommodate to this clientele, but until quite recently, seminaries seemed almost immune. Their students were chiefly full-time. In the last several years this phenomenon has reached schools of theology, as the data in Table 2 demonstrate. There are fewer full-time enrollees. They are coming to seminaries at an older age, wanting to study part-time while pursuing careers and other interests. Seminaries are learning how to cope with this new type of student.

TABLE 2
Comparisons of Total Enrollment, 1978–1983
Total Numbers of Individuals and Their Full-time Equivalents

Year	Total Persons	% Change	FTE Enrollment	% Change	FTE % of Total Person Enrollment
1978	46,460		36,219		78.0%
1979	48,433	+4.2%	36,795	+1.6%	76.0%
1980	49,611	+2.4%	37,245	+1.2%	75.1%
1981	50,559	+1.9%	37,254	+0.02%	73.7%
1982	52,620	+4.1%	37,705	+1.2%	71.7%
1983	55,112	+4.7%	38,923	+3.3%	70.6%

Table 3 reports the increase in numbers and ratio of women seminary students for each year since 1972, when the collection of data was begun. Just eleven years ago women constituted only 10.2% of the total student population. Their numbers reached 13,451 in 1983, now comprising almost one-fourth of seminarians (24.4%). And they have increased in every category of enrollment: degrees leading to ordination, academic masters degrees, doctoral students, etc. Thus, although women still fall well below their ratio of the population at large (roughly one half), the growth rate is seven and one half times that enjoyed by male registration. However, as Table 3 reveals, that growth rate has been slowing down in the last several years. In six of the first seven years of data collection, the growth rate was 13.0% or higher. In contrast five of the last six years it has not reached even ten per cent.

TABLE 3
WOMEN THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS

	Number of Women	% Annual Increase	% Total Enrollment
1972	3,358		10.2%
1973	4,021	+19.7%	11.8%
1974	5,255	+30.7%	14.3%
1975	6,505	+23.8%	15.9%
1976	7,349	+13.0%	17.1%
1977	8,371	+13.9%	18.5%
1978	8,972	+ 7.2%	19.3%
1979	10,204	+13.7%	21.1%
1980	10,830	+ 6.1%	21.8%
1981	11,683	+ 7.9%	23.1%
1982	12,473	+ 6.8%	23.7%
1983	13,451	+ 7.8%	24.4%

Table 4 provides data on the black student population in theological seminaries. The Association has collected this information only since 1970, and all of the data are reported in the table. In one sense this information parallels that for women noted above. The rate of increase has been more rapid than total seminary growth, and the percentage of total enrollments which black students represent has almost doubled in the thirteen year period. Nonetheless, despite these accomplishments, black students continue to fall far below the ratio of blacks found in the total population.

TABLE 4
BLACK STUDENT ENROLLMENT

	Number of Black Students	% Annual Increase	% Total Enrollment
1970	808		2.6%
1971	908	+12.4%	2.8%
1972	1,061	+16.9%	3.2%
1973	1,210	+14.0%	3.6%
1974	1,246	+ 3.0%	3.4%
1975	1,365	+ 9.6%	3.3%
1976	1,524	+11.6%	3.5%
1977	1,759	+15.4%	3.9%
1978	1,919	+ 9.1%	4.1%
1979	2,043	+ 6.5%	4.2%
1980	2,205	+ 7.9%	4.4%
1981	2,371	+ 7.5%	4.7%
1982	2,576	+ 8.6%	4.9%
1983	2,881	+11.8%	5.2%

Table 5 provides data on the enrollment of Hispanic students in schools of theology. It will be readily apparent that the numbers are not very large, when compared with the ratio of persons from Hispanic backgrounds within the population of the two nations. Nonetheless, as the table indicates, the numbers have grown quite substantially in recent years, and the growth rate continues far above that of the total student population.

TABLE 5
HISPANIC STUDENT ENROLLMENT

	Number of Hispanic Students	% Annual Increase	% Total Enrollment
1972	264		0.8%
1973	387	+46.8%	1.1%
1974	448	+15.8%	1.2%
1975	524	+17.0%	1.3%
1976	541	+ 3.2%	1.3%
1977	601	+11.1%	1.3%
1978	681	+13.3%	1.5%
1979	822	+20.7%	1.7%
1980	894	+ 8.8%	1.8%
1981	955	+ 6.8%	1.9%
1982	1,180	+23.6%	2.2%
1983	1,381	+17.0%	2.5%

Table 6 provides data on the enrollment of persons of Pacific/Asian American ancestry. The numbers here are also quite small. But 1983 brought a continuation of the growth rate in enrollment of this group of persons.

TABLE 6
PACIFIC/ASIAN AMERICAN STUDENTS

	Number of Students	% Annual Increase	% Total Enrollment
1977	494		1.1%
1978	499	+ 1.0%	1.1%
1979	577	+15.6%	1.2%
1980	602	+ 4.3%	1.2%
1981	716	+18.9%	1.4%
1982	707	− 1.3%	1.3%
1983	779	+10.2%	1.4%

Full details regarding these enrollment data, and other statistical information, are available from the annual *Fact Book on Theological Education* published by the Association of Theological Schools.

4. SURVEYS OF RELIGION IN AMERICAN LIFE

In this section are three surveys recently completed which come from a variety of sources. The first is "What Hath the 1970s Wrought?: Religion in America." This is followed by a roundup of selected Church Attendance and Other Polls. The last survey is "Value of New Construction of Religious Buildings," which has been a yearly report in the **Yearbook** for many years.

WHAT HATH THE 1970s WROUGHT?: RELIGION IN AMERICA[1]

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In the 1950s, churches and synagogues in America were moving, along with more and more of the population, to the suburbs. During this time of extraordinarily expansive optimism, religion seemingly thrived. In the 1960s the national eye turned from the quiet and promise of the suburbs to the struggles of, first, the racially segregated urban streets, and then the war-provoked college campuses. Our entire society was shaken, and so too the taken-for-granted sanctity of our religious institutions. The 1970s are a bit more difficult to peg, perhaps because we are still too close. Certainly in the religious arena, however, one thinks of the rise of the sects—whether "born again" or those strange "new" religions from the East. And perhaps, in terms of the mainline, one also thinks of silence, of quiet introspection and cautious reassessment. What did happen to religion in America during the 1970s? The answer depends, of course, on where you look. One possible perspective is the view from national public opinion polls. What follows is that view, a look at religious change, or the lack thereof, in the 1970s as evidenced through an accumulation of national survey trend data.[2]

Religious Preference

The preference profile of the American population has been changing slowly for at least the last two generations, and the movement and direction of that change is clearly evident in the 1970s. Most notable is the gradual decline of the Protestant majority and the related long-term growth of Catholicism. More recently, since the mid-1960s, there has also been an increase in the percentage of persons expressing no religious preference. Hardly precipitous, these long-term trends have nevertheless been steady; and, given the relative age structure of the three involved groups (Protestants being significantly older), it is not totally inconceivable that by the turn of the century less than half of all Americans will be Protestant. It is also of interest to note in the preference trends that all the attention generated by the so-called new religions, which would be included within the "other" category used by the pollsters, has not been accompanied by a noticeable increase in numbers.

TABLE 1: RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE 1967–1982

Year	1967	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Preference*														
Protestant	67%			63		60	61	61		60	59	61	59	57
Catholic	25			26		27	27	27		29	29	28	28	29
Jewish	3			2		2	2	2		2	2	2	2	2
Other	3			4		5	4	4		1	2	2	4	4
None	2			5		6	6	6		8	8	7	7	8

*Based on multiple AIPO polls aggregated for each year.

TABLE 2: INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION

Year	1965	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
MEMBERSHIP*														
Do you happen to be a member of a church or synagogue? % Yes	73						71	71	70	68	68	69	68	67
Could you tell me whether or not you are a member of any church-affiliated groups? % Yes***						42	39		38	36		30		
CHURCH/ SYNAGOGUE ATTENDANCE														
Did you, yourself, happen to attend church or synagogue in the last seven days? % Yes	44	42	40	40	40	40	40	42	41	41	40	40	41	41
How often do you attend religious services? % Every week or more***				34	29	30	29	29	29	28		29	28	
(If any religious preference) Would you say you go to church or synagogue: % every week****				26		25		25		25		25		

*Based on AIPO surveys
**Based on multiple AIPO surveys aggregated for each year
***Based on NORC General Social Surveys
****Based on American National Election Study surveys

Membership and Participation

From the inception of commercial public opinion polling in the late 1930s, through the mid-1960s, church and synagogue membership as measured in the polls hovered within a percentage point or two of 74% in 1947. The 1970s mark a clear break with this pattern, as Table 2, above, shows. Membership dropped slowly throughout the decade to a "new" low of 67% in 1982. Interestingly, this drop of 6 percentage points over the last decade and a half exactly equals the increase over the same period in the percentage expressing no religious preference (as noted above). The drop in membership has been particularly notable among persons expressing a Catholic preference. Ninety percent of persons expressing a Catholic preference in 1965 also stated that they belonged to a church. By 1976 the comparable figure had dropped to 80%, and in 1982 it stood at 79%.

Although membership dropped slightly during the 1970s, attendance at religious services remained virtually unchanged for the population as a whole. The overall numbers, however, obscure slight differences between Protestants and Catholics. For Protestants there was a slight upturn over the decade (1970 = 38% attending worship in a typical week; 1980 = 40%). Among Catholics there was a continuation, although less severe, of the declines experienced in the 1960s (1970 = 60% attending worship in a typical week; 1980 = 53%).

Public Confidence in Organized Religion

Of those major social institutions for which public confidence has been regularly assessed in the polls since the early 1970s (military, Congress, business, labor, public schools, newspapers, etc.), organized religion consistently comes out at or near the top. In the 1983 AIPO (Gallup) polling, for example, 62% of Americans expressed either a "great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in organized religion. The military was a distant second with a comparable confidence rating of 53%, and Congress, business, labor, and television huddled at the bottom, all below 30%. Nevertheless, through the 1970s the public's confidence in religion, as for all assessed institutions, dropped notably, even significantly in some series. To the extent that it is of any consolation, within this broader context of the general erosion of public confidence in major social institutions during the 1970s, organized religion did no worse than most. The big loser, at least according to the AIPO measure noted above, was public education, which went from a confidence rating of 58% in 1973 to 39% in 1983.

TABLE 3: CONFIDENCE IN CHURCH OR ORGANIZED RELIGION

Year	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
As far as the people running [organized religion] are concerned, would you say you have: % a great deal of confidence*				32	32	33	23	32	34	20	21	22	20
Would you please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in the church or organized religion? % saying a "great deal" or "quite a lot"**				66		68		64		65	66	63	

*Based on Harris surveys
**Based on AIPO surveys

Religious Saliency

Although public confidence in organized religion dropped somewhat during the 1970s, there is little evidence of a comparable drop in the expressed salience of religion to individuals or in their perception of the salience of religion in society. Apparently the American population maintains some distinction between religion and its institutional

embodiment in churches or synagogues, a claim supported by a 1978 Gallup finding that over 80% of Americans agreed with the statement that "an individual should arrive at his or her own religious beliefs independent of any church or synagogue."[3]

The seemingly sharp declines in perceptions of saliency in the late 1960s appear to have bottomed out and stabilized, with minor fluctuations, through the 1970s and into the early 1980s. The one possible exception to this general pattern is a decline in the percentage of parents wanting their children to receive religious instruction. This decline continued through the 1970s and is actually traceable at least back to 1952.

TABLE 4: RELIGIOUS SALIENCE FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

Year	1965	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
How important would you say religion is in your own life? % very*	70									52		55	56	56
How important to you are your religious beliefs? % very*						56		58		57	60		59	
Belonging to some organized religion is important in a person's life. % strongly agree**						61	58	62		61			60	61
(If religious preference) Would you call yourself a strong [religious preference named]? % strong***						42	42	38	40	39		41		42
Would you want a child of yours to receive any religious instruction? % yes*	96									87			83	

*Based on AIPO surveys
**Based on Yankelovich, Skelly and White surveys
***Based on NORC General Social Surveys

TABLE 5: RELIGIOUS SALIENCE IN SOCIETY

Year	1967	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Do you believe that religion can answer all or most of today's problems, or that religion is largely old fashioned and out of date? % can answer*						61							64	58
At the present time, do you think religion as a whole is increasing its influence on American life or losing its influence? % increasing*	33	14				31	39	44	36	37		35	38	37
Would you like to see a revival or religious faith happen or not? % would like to see*				83				80	86				81	

*Based on AIPO surveys
**Based on Harris surveys

Religious Beliefs

Despite the overall increase in attention given to religion in the polls in the 1970s, little of that was directed to an analysis of trends in religious belief. This is somewhat ironic given American Christianity's preoccupation with belief; but the number of recent national surveys totally devoted to the subject of religion offer hopeful signs that a body of data on religious belief is beginning to accumulate.[4] The fact remains, however, that there is little "hard" data from the 1970s with which to access any possible change in belief over this decade of the American experience. That data which there is suggests what by now is becoming a familiar sounding pattern: little or no change through at least the latter part of the decade, following a significant decine—in this case in "orthodoxy" of belief—in the 1960s. The key word in this interpretation of the trend in belief is "orthodoxy." It is used as a qualifer to imply that although the "all or nothing" or "yes or no" level of expressed belief in some religious concept like "life after death," "God," or "the Bible" may not have shown any significant decline, even in the 1960s, there is some evidence to suggest that the meaning attributed to such a concept has changed, at least somewhat. Thus, for example, while it appears to be true that the percentage of Americans who attribute no special religious significance to the Bible has not changed appreciably since at least the early 1960s, there has been a significant decline in the percentage of persons who hold to a "literalistic" interpretation of the Bible.

TABLE 6: RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

Year	1963	1968	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
LIFE AFTER DEATH													
Do you believe there is a life after death? % yes*		73		70	69	67			71		73		
BELIEFS ABOUT THE BIBLE													
Which of these statements comes closest to describing your feelings about the Bible? % The Bible is the actual word of God and is to be taken literally, word for word**	65						37		38		39	37	
Here are four statements about the Bible, and I'd life you to tell me which is closest to your view? % The Bible is God's word and all it says is true***		51									45		

*Based on AIPO and NORC surveys
**Based on AIPO surveys
***Based on American National Election Study surveys

Religious Experience and Practices

In 1976, the United States elected a "born again" president and religion became a part of political debate with an intensity not heard since the "Catholicism" of John F. Kennedy in 1960. By 1980, amid a barrage of headline rumblings about the "rise of the religious right," all three of the major presidential candidates professed to being "born again." Evangelical Protestantism appeared to have found a new vitality. National public opinion poll trend data suggests, however, that whatever political vitality may have emerged is not traceable in noticeable increases in those kinds of religious practices often associated with evangelical Protestantism—at least in the late 1970s, the only period for which we have meaningful indicators. Biblical "literalism," as we have already noted, has remained virtually constant since at least 1976. The same appears to be the case both for those professing a "born again"

experience, and for those professing a "religious experience," more generally. There does appear to be a slight increase from 1976 to 1981 in the percentage of persons "encouraging" others to believe in Jesus Christ. But the sharp ups and downs of this trend over the five-year period warrant caution in pointing to it as the herald of significant change.

Trend data on the so-called new religions is even more scarce than that on the "new Christian right." What little does exist indicates that the percentage of Americans involved in yoga, transcendantal meditation, eastern religions, and the charismatic movement hovered between 1% and 3% in the 1976 to 1979 period, with no perceptible trend. Such small numbers hardly seem indicative of a "major new force." Yet it must also be noted that even such small percentages, when translated into projections of actual numbers of people, equal or exceed the membership of every major Protestant denomination except for the Southern Baptist Convention and United Methodist Church, and equal or exceed the total estimated number of American Jews.

The trend in the percentage of Americans who pray is of special note because it shows a pattern similar to that found in regard to belief. Specifically, although the percentage of those who pray has declined ever so slightly from the mid-1960s to the 1980s, the frequency of prayer appears to have declined much more sharply.

TABLE 7: RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE AND PRACTICES

Year	1965	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE														
Have you ever had a religious experience—that is, a particularly powerful religious insight or awakening? % yes*								30		35		30	31	
Would you say that you have been born again or have had a born-again experience—that is, a turning point in your life when you committed yourself to Jesus Christ? % yes*								34		37		38	35	
EVANGELISM														
Have you ever tried to encourage someone to believe in Jesus Christ or to accept Him as his or her Savior? % yes*								47				44	53	
PRAYER														
Do you ever pray to God? % yes*	92									89				88
% once a day or more*	71									61				
WHICH, IF ANY, OF THESE ARE YOU INVOLVED IN OR DO YOU PRACTICE?*														
% Yoga								2		3	3			
% Transcendental Meditation								4		2	2			
% Eastern religions								1		1	2			
% Charismatic movement								2		2	2			

*Based on AIPO surveys

Interfaith Tolerance and Relations

The United States has always been a marvel of religious diversity, and there is every indication that this diversity is, if anything, increasing. The question remains, however, of the extent to which the reality of plurality has been paralleled by the ideal of equality. During the late 1950s, at least as articulated on numerous occasions by then President Eisenhower, what seemed to be important was that a person was religious, or at least identified with a religious group, not what religion was professed. Not surprisingly, such sentiment is also reflected to a great extent in national poll data dealing with religious prejudice in politics from that period. Being an atheist appeared to be a sufficient criterion in and of itself for disqualifying a person from being taken as a

TABLE 8: INTERFAITH TOLERANCE AND RELATIONS

Year	1958	1967	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1980	1981	1982	1983
PREJUDICE IN POLITICS*													
If your party nominated a generally well-qualified man for president and he happened to be a ——, would you vote for him? % who would vote for:													
Catholic	68	90							91				92
Baptist	92	95											
Jew	62	82							82				88
Atheist	18								40				42
CIVIL LIBERTIES													
If a person who is against all churches and religion wanted to make a speech in your community against churches and religion, should he be allowed to speak, or not? % Yes, allowed to speak			65	65	62		64	62		66		64	
FAVORABLENESS OF OPINION OF OTHER FAITH GROUPS***													
On a scale going from +5 for someone you have a very favorable opinion of, all the way down to – for someone you have a very unfavorable opinion of, how far up or how far down the scale would you rate ——?													
% "highly favorable" opinion of Jews by all Americans						33	34				40		
% "highly favorable" opinion of Protestants by Catholics						48	53				56		
% "highly favorable" opinion of Catholics by Protestants						34	36				40		

*Based on AIPO surveys
**Based on NORC General Social Surveys
***Based on AIPO surveys. "Highly Favorable" is defined as a rating of +5 or +4.

serious presidential candidate. Being a Catholic or a Jew, to be sure, also carried some stigma in the eyes of the American electorate in the late 1950s. The ideal of religious equality was still illusive. But the gap between religions, at least as evidenced by this one indicator, was considerably less than that between being religious and professing no religion.

From the late 1950s to the late 1960s, interreligious political prejudice dropped sharply, and this trend toward greater religious equality in the political arena has continued to the present. In fact, at the current time racial and gender prejudices appear to be much more of a factor in presidential politics than religious preference, except if a candidate professes no religious preference. Even though considerably more persons would not hesitate to vote for an otherwise qualified atheist for president today (42% in 1983) than was the case in the late 1950s (18% in 1958), there remains a clear and highly significant pro-religious bias.

Americans' continuing suspicion of atheists is also evident in other trends measuring their acceptance in different sectors of public life. One series, for example, originating in 1954 and picked up again in the early 1970s, asks whether or not a person who is against all churches and religion should be allowed to teach in colleges, should be allowed to make a speech against religion, and should be allowed to have a book he or she wrote against religion placed in a public library.[5] Table 8 contains the 1970s trend for the second of these three items. It shows basically no change for the decade. But, the figure of approximately 65% of Americans who would favor permitting such a speech in the 1970s shows considerably more acceptance or tolerance than the comparable 37% figure from 1954. This pattern of increased tolerance from 1954 to 1972, followed by no significant change through the 1970s, is also found for the "teaching" and "library book" items.

A variety of other national poll trend data dealing with attitudes toward America's various faith groups exists that shows basically the same pattern—significant increases in tolerance, acceptance, or favorableness from the 1950s to the 1970s, followed by slight increases or no change through the 1970s. The AIPO "favorableness" ratings contained in Table 8, although only beginning in the mid-1970s, is yet another example of this basic pattern.

Conclusion

The view of religion from the polls during the 1950s and 1960s was one of change. In comparison, the view for the 1970s appears to be one of stability. This is not to say that the last decade was totally devoid of any shifts in the American religious landscape. It is to say, however, that what changes are evident were slight and in most cases continuations, although at reduced rates, of much longer-term trends.

In summary, the changes in religion during the 1970s preceivable in national public opinion poll data include: (1) the increasing Americanization of Catholicism (as Catholic rates of membership, worship attendance, and devotional practice drop to levels approaching those of the Protestant majority) and increasing Catholicism in America (in terms of religious preference); (2) a slight increase in the percentage of Americans *not* members of churches or synagogues, and in the percentage of Americans expressing no religious preference; (3) a drop in public confidence in organized religion, but no more or less than the erosion of confidence found for most of our major social institutions; and, (4) slight increases in inter-faith tolerance, acceptance, and good will. Overall, however, stability seems more characteristic of religion in the 1970s than does change, this being particularly true for individual religious practices, belief, and saliency.

Notes

[1] The trend data presented in this article is a part of that compiled by the author under a grant from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and Hartford Seminary to develop a comprehensive index of archived national survey religious time-series. In addition to these institutions, the author would like to express his appreciation to the Roper Center, the National Opinion Research Center, the Louis Harris Data Center, and the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, both for their assistance to him and for their efforts in helping to

preserve the rich and invaluable tradition which the survey data in their archives represents.

[2] Public opinion polling was one of the "growth" industries of the 1970s. One of the consequences of this growth was a significant increase in national level trend data on religion. Another consequence was the development of several data archives to preserve the increasing number of surveys conducted and to make them available to researchers for secondary analysis. All of the data presented in this article are from national public opinion surveys, most conducted through personal interviews with probability samples of the non-institutionalized American population 18 years of age or older. The typical sample includes approximately 1,500 persons and has a sampling error of ±4 percentage points. Most of the data was obtained by the author from the actual survey codebooks. In a few instances, however, particularly for the most recent years, secondary sources had to be used. These included the *Gallup Opinion Index* and the Princeton Religion Research Center's *Emerging Trends*. AIPO surveys as specified in the Tables are conducted by the Gallup Poll. NORC surveys are conducted by the National Opinion Research Center. The American National Election Study surveys are conducted by the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research.

[3] *The Unchurched American* (The Princeton Religion Research Center and The Gallup Organization, Inc., 1978).

[4] The founding of the Princeton Religion Research Center in 1977 and its close relationship to the Gallup Poll is especially noteworthy in this regard. Its publication, *Emerging Trends*, remains the single best on-going source of recent national survey trend data on religion.

[5] The original asking of these items in 1954 was a part of a broader survey studying American civil liberties, directed by Samuel Stouffer (*Communism, Conformity and Civil Liberties*. Gloucester, MA: Smith, 1963). In 1972 the items, along wtih six others from the original study were chosen to be included in the NORC General Social Survey series.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE AND OTHER POLLS

According to PRRC *Emerging Trends* of January, 1983, published by the Princeton Religion Research Center (P.O. Box 310, 53 Bank St., Princeton, NJ 08540), church/synagogue attendance in a typical week of 1982 was placed at 41% of adults 18 years of age or older. This is the second year in a row attendance was pegged at this level as the following table shows:

TABLE 1

Church/Synagogue Attendance Among U.S. Adults

(% Attending in average week)

1982	41%	1966	44
1981	41	1965	44
1980	40	1964	45
1979	40	1963	46
1978	41	1962	46
1977	41	1961	47
1976	42	1960	47
1975	40	1959	47
1974	40	1958	49*
1973	40	1957	47
1972	40	1956	46
1971	40	1955	49*
1970	42	1954	46
1969	42	1950	39
1968	43	1940	37**
1967	43	1939	41

*High points

**Low point

When the question on attendance was asked of a sample of those saying they were church or synagogue *members*, however, 55% of adults 18 years of age or older said they attended in a typical week in 1982, according to the PRRC *Emerging Trends*, April 1983. Table 2, below, shows the differences between those of the total sample of adults 18 years of age or older and those who claimed to be church/synagogue members. The table gives some selected responses to the question, *"Did you, yourself, happen to attend church or synagogue in the last seven days?"*

Church/Synagogue Attendance

(Percent attending in average week of 1982)

	Total sample %	Church members %
NATIONAL	41	55
Men	35	51
Women	45	58
Whites	40	55
Men	35	51
Women	43	57
South	38	50
Non-South	40	56
Blacks	45	58
Men	35	51
Women	53	61
South	51	58
Non-South	40	55
College educated	44	58
College graduate	45	60
College incomplete	39	54
High school	38	53
Grade school	43	55
Total under 30 years	32	46
18-24 years	31	45
25-29 years	34	49
30-49 years	39	55
50 and older	47	60
50-64 years	46	59
65 and older	50	62
East	39	54
Midwest	45	59
South	41	52
West	34	55
Protestants	41	53
Catholics	51	60
Jews	17	31

Surge in Religious Interest

In a poll conducted by the Gallup Organization for the Christian Broadcasting Network and reported in PRRC *Emerging Trends,* November, 1983, there was a "rising tide of interest and involvement in religion among all levels of society" detected.

"Six in ten Americans (57%) say they are more interested in religious and spiritual matters than they were five years ago, while as many as four in 10 say their spiritual well-being has improved," Gallup notes.

The survey also reveals a growing conviction that "religion, rather than science, can answer the problems of the world with 54% saying that they are more likely than five years ago to feel that religion can answer the problems of the world and 26% saying less likely."

Gallup also notes that "Americans are searching with a new intensity for spiritual moorings in their lives. This search is taking the form of growth in Bible study groups, religious education classes, and evangelism. In addition, the charismatic movement shows no signs of abating."

In a *Newsweek On Campus Poll* conducted by the Gallup Organization, a return to religion is found on the college campuses of America according to PRRC *Emerging Trends* of November, 1983. Some of the findings are as follows:

- The percentage of college students who say religion is very important in their lives has increased from 39% in 1975 and 1979 to 50% at present.
- Churchgoing has increased, with 39% of students now saying they attend every week, compared to 34% in 1975.
- The proportion of college youth today who say their religious commitment as become stronger since they have been in college is twice the proportion who say it has become *weaker*.

VALUE OF NEW CONSTRUCTION OF RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS IN CURRENT AND CONSTANT 1977 DOLLARS
(In Millions of Dollars)

Year	Current Dollars	1977 Dollars	Year	Current Dollars	1977 Dollars
1968	$1,079	$2,138	1976	$ 956	$1,013
1969	989	1,800	1977	1,046	1,044
1970	929	1,550	1978	1,248	1,107
1971	813	1,256	1979	1,548	1,180
1972	845	1,241	1980	1,637	1,106
1973	814	1,107	1981	1,665	1,078
1974	918	1,034	1982	1,523	978
1975	867	920			

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "Value of New Construction Put in Place in the United States, 1964 to 1980," *Construction Reports* C 30-80 S, Table 1, pp. 4-5. For 1982 data, *Construction Reports,* March, 1983, Table 1, p. 3.

In constant dollar terms, estimates of the value of new construction of religious buildings declined in the decade of the '70s but showed a slight upturn for the years 1977-79. A decline begin in 1980 which has continued for three years. New construction of religious buildings dropped below $1 billion in constant 1977 dollars only twice since 1968; in 1975 and again in 1982. It is estimated that new religious construction was valued in real terms at two and a half times as much in 1962 as in 1982 and slightly over one and a half times as much in 1970 as in 1982.